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— RETRO —



You see the word, you think lava lamps. Or saddle shoes. Perhaps a pair of acid-wash jeans. Maybe you picture peace signs and bright plastic patio furniture.

The word conjures these images, sure—but do not be misled. This book does not refine the fashions of the fifties, or pay homage to the spirit of the sixties. These pages do not try to recreate the groovin' sideburn styles of the seventies, and they most certainly do not let us relive the blue eye-shadowed days of the eighties—because that's not us.

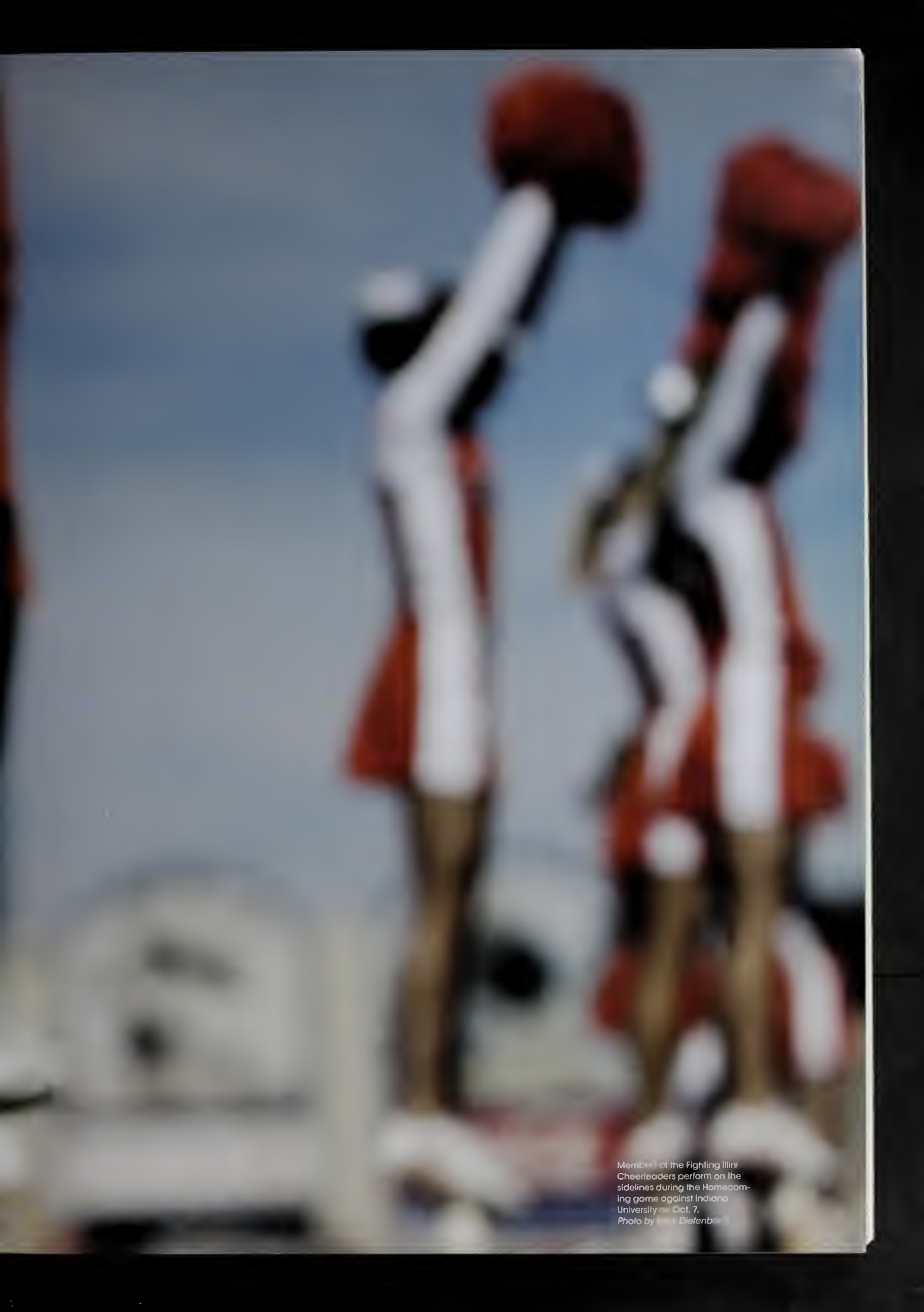
Years from now, we won't dust off our turntables and dig out old records; we'll pull out our iPods and try plugging them in. We won't remember concerning ourselves with communism, the Civil Rights Act or Vietnam, but with terrorism, the environment and the war in Iraq. We'll tell our kids about the time when a gallon of gas cost 3 dollars, a cup of coffee nearly 5, and how we saved money on library fines with a simple Google search.

We have a way of life specific to the 21st century. We have our own styles, trends, slang words and technologies; our own politics, social issues, opinions and motivations. We have our own historical memory, one that will someday recall our current experience with the help of this 2007 college yearbook.

Retro, in this case, means backward, situated behind, reminiscent of things past. This volume of the Illio, like all 113 that have come before it, looks back on a single year and naturally becomes a product of its time. It may look modern to you now, but if you flip through it about every ten years, you'll surely find yourself shaking your head and saying, "Wow. How...retro."







Members of the Fighting Illini  
Cheerleaders perform on the  
sidelines during the Homecom-  
ing game against Indiana  
University on Oct. 7.  
Photo by *Tom Diefenbach*









Doniel Beaumont, left, and Joan Vonderlaan, freshman and sophomore in LAS, respectively, look for books at Follett's Bookstore on 627 S. Wright St.  
Photo by Josh Bimbaum









Tollo Oakley, freshman in LAS, peers out the front doors of Lincoln Hall while waiting for a friend to arrive so they could walk to the bookstore together on a rainy afternoon.  
*Photo by Josh Birnboum*







Illini fans gather around Foellinger Auditorium for the Homecoming pep rally. This year's theme was "Now and Forever."  
*Photo by Enoch Chung*

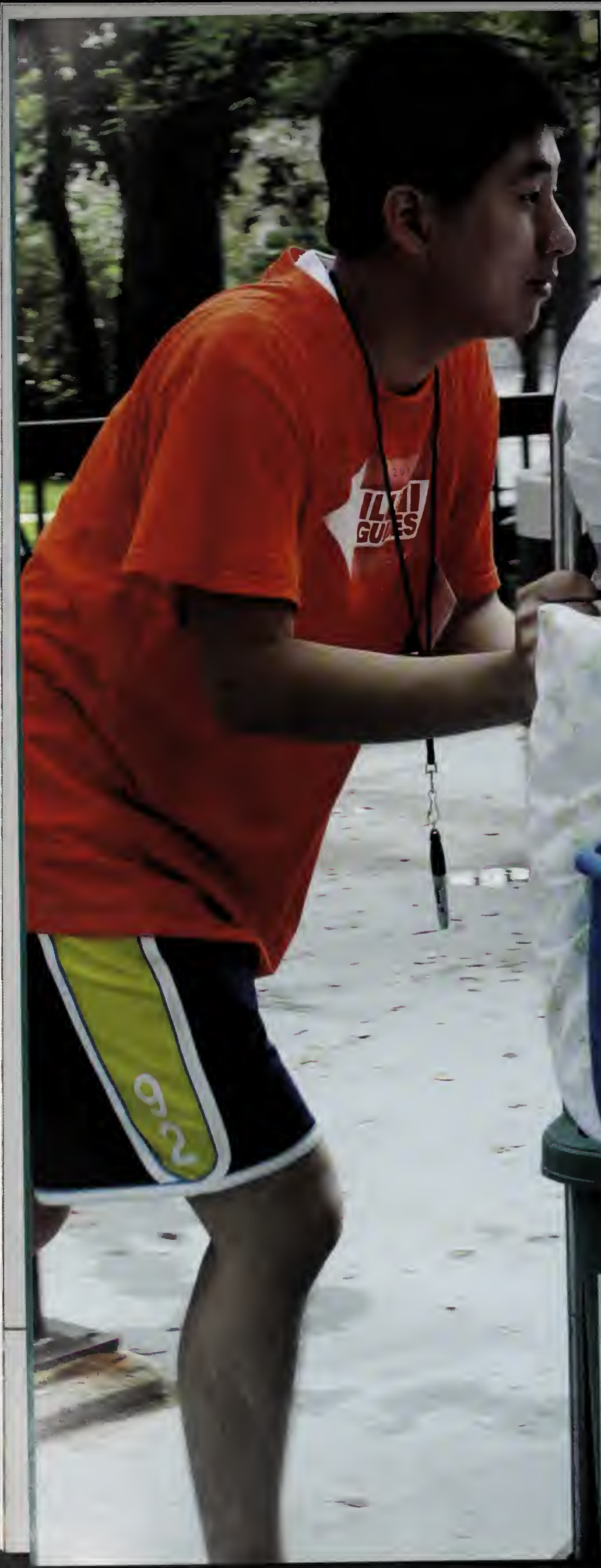
RETRO

SPECTIVE 

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**Opposite:** Annie Lin, freshman in ACES, watches her friend assemble a shelf in her new room at Florida Avenue Residence Hall on Aug. 19  
**Below:** Derek To, Junior in ACES, pushes a cart of luggage at Illini Tower on Aug. 18 during early move-in.

## first year follies ●●●

Members of the class of 2010 share their most embarrassing moments.



"I was riding my bike home after going out for the night, and I hit a curb and completely flipped over. It was pretty embarrassing."

—Alec Verone  
freshman in FAA



# coming to campus

FRESHMEN ADJUST TO COLLEGE WITH HELP FROM UPPERCLASSMEN

College. The best four years of your life. Nothing compares to the year-long party, the classes, the new friends; the roller coaster ride that is freshman year. I-Guides, student volunteers, spent most of move-in week carrying boxes and talking to new students to help them adjust.

The freshman class of 2010 consisted of 7,778 students which was less than the previous two years. Although there were not quite as many freshmen to prepare for, resident advisors and students alike still had a lot of anxious preparation for the coming school year.

Hayfa Aboukier, a junior in Liberal Arts and Sciences, is an R.A. at Scott Hall. She attended a two-week training course on how to handle problems that might be encountered during the school year.

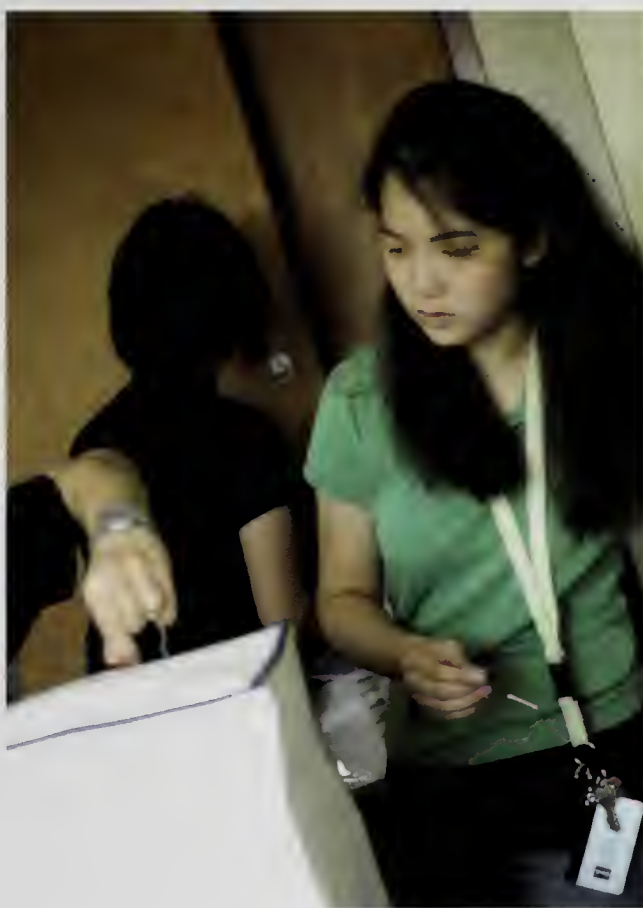
"Basically, if a resident comes to us and is getting beaten up by her boyfriend, we need know what resources are available to them on campus and direct them toward those resources," Aboukier said.

In addition to being prepared for her incoming residents, Aboukier also tried to create a community on her floor in which the students could get to know each other. She was successful in doing so. Kelsey Baron, a freshman in LAS, thoroughly enjoyed her first semester at the University of Illinois.

"My favorite part was the social scene," Baron said. "And not just going out and parties but also just hanging out."

Although it is clear that freshmen enjoyed their new environment, there was a common sense of independence that often led to stressful situations. Gaby Kuri and Christina Burke, both freshmen in LAS, enjoyed their independence but at the same time felt it took some getting used to.

"We're so used to being at home and always being at least a little bit dependent on someone,



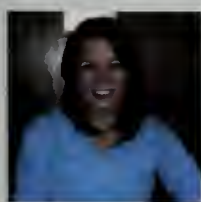
and then we come here and are totally on our own," Kuri said.

Total freedom became a common problem among freshmen as well as a concern of the R.A.'s. Aboukier said her residents that being cautious of independence in a new environment is critical.

"I addressed this issue in our first meeting. If I communicate with the freshmen often then hopefully they won't lose control," she said.

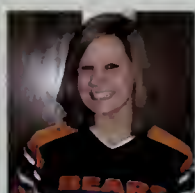
Freshmen year of college is one of the most important times in a student's life and it seems that a balance between social life, independence, and school work is what the class of 2010 lived by.

STORY BY JESSICA RADOGNO  
PHOTOS BY CHRISTINA LEUNG



"I was at a frat party, and I fell down a bunch of stairs and ended up sprawled out on the floor. Everyone circled me and started yelling 'party foul' and pointing at me. It was funny but also embarrassing. I woke up with bruises."

—Alli Grotz  
freshman in LAS



"I went to a themed 'pimps and hoes' party and I was definitely the only one who dressed to the theme. It was so awkward. Everyone in the room was wearing normal clothes and then there was me and a skanky costume."

—Shelley Maxwell  
freshman in LAS



"I was riding the bus and I sat next to this really big guy, and I didn't realize how hiked up his shorts were. So as I was sitting there he kept inching really close to me and leaning on me. The whole situation was just weird, and I was so happy to get off that bus."

—Doug Klier  
freshman in Engineering

RETROSPECTIVE  
coming to campus



# remembering a recent tragedy



## CHAMPAIGN-URBANA COMMUNITY COMMEMORATES SEPT. 11

This year, they chose to plant a white oak—the state tree of Illinois.

“White oaks are known for having long life spans,” Pagac said. “It fit well with the symbolism of rebirth and growth.”

Currently the grove is mostly high grasses and bushes, but already planted there are various bushes, nuts, and seeds. Pagac said he hopes that these will flourish into a fully grown forest in the future and become home to some of the animals that already live in the preserve.

The University School of Music honored the anniversary by performing Bach’s Cantata #151, the lyrics of which are translated as “Praise God in all lands.” The piece began in Smith Memorial Music Hall at 7:46 a.m. and ended at 8:03 a.m.—the times that the two planes hit the World Trade Center towers in New York City.

Vocalist and professor of music Ollie Watts Davis was joined by the Pacifica String Quartet, and she said the School of Music has had a musical tribute every year since the first anniversary in 2002.

“Everyone who was there was united by a common cause—to remember what had happened and why we were there,” Davis said.

The short concert was open to the public. The audience was composed of Watts’ colleagues in the School of Music and a few members of the community.

“It was important that everyone was there for the same reason,” Davis said. “We had a few minutes to reflect at the end, and be thankful for and enjoy the community that we have.”

STORY BY **JEN BRANDT**  
PHOTOS BY **AMELIA MOORE**  
**ADAM BABCOCK**

**f**or the past five years, our nation has remembered the losses of the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks in New York, Pennsylvania and Washington D.C. President Bush honored the victims in a two-day journey that brought him to the three sites where the hijacked planes crashed, killing a total of 2,973 people. He and his wife somberly set floral wreaths adrift in the memorial reflection pools that stand where the World Trade Centers had stood since 1972, amidst a crowd of mourners.

Closer to home, Champaign-Urbana paid their own respects in the form of new seed in the Champaign forest preserve and a tribute concert on campus.

Planted in 2002 with backing from both the Republican and Democratic parties in the area, the Champaign County Forest Preserve District (CCFPD) established the Sept. 11 Memorial Grove at the River Bend Forest Preserve in Mahomet, Ill. It is a patch of preserve that will be added to yearly on the anniversary of the attacks as a “living tribute” to those who lost their lives, according to Gerald Pagac, Executive Director of CCFPD.

## are five years too few?

Two movies had been released in 2006, “United 93” and “World Trade Center,” each a different illustration of the tragic events of Sept. 11. Students had mixed thoughts regarding their release, some feeling it was too soon, others encouraged by the patriotism they portrayed.

“I think it is too soon. The movies seem like they’re just capitalizing on current American sentiment rather than trying to actually depict events within a dramatic and historical context, like what could have been done if producers had united. I’m not going to say I refuse to watch either movie, but I’m certainly not going to seek them out for viewing.”

—Pat Traylor  
junior in Communications

“I don’t think it was too early. Yes, people are still trying to get over what happened, but sometimes actually facing it or seeing it can help people move on. People that could be offended by the movies always have the choice of not seeing them or well, it’s a movie, the producers are out to make money and the longer they wait the less appeal it will have to people.”

—Jason Filip  
sophomore in LAS

“I thought it was soon at first, but the movies are well done, and they based everything on accurate sources. I feel “United 93” had a little more impact because they perished in the end. “World Trade Center” is a story about survival, so it had a somewhat happy ending.”

—Beth Jones  
senior in Communications





**Opposite:** Jim Hansen at the English Department here at the University speaks at the "Unit for Criticism and Interpretive Theory. September 11 panel discussion" on Monday afternoon at the Levi's Faculty Center in Urbana. *Photo by A. Moore*  
**Above:** Firefighters from Urbana and Champaign roll up a flag which was masted between two fire trucks for the firefighter memorial ceremony held in West Side Park, Sept. 11, 2006. *Photo by A. Bobcock*



# back to the heart

ILLINI MEDIA CELEBRATES NEW CAMPUS LOCATION  
DURING BUILDING DEDICATION WEEKEND

**Opposite top:** Roger Simon, chief political correspondent of Bloomberg News, and Marco Kramer, recent retiree from *The Washington Post*, make the crowd laugh during Sunday's champagne brunch.

*Photo by B. Diefenbach*

**Opposite top center:** Illini Media's publisher Mary Cory mingles with alumni.

**Opposite bottom center:** WPGU alum Charlie Meyerson offers words of wisdom to current students.


*Photo by B. Diefenbach*

**Opposite bottom:** Creative Works and alumni director Kit Donohue, left, and general manager Mary Cory celebrate on the fourth floor balcony.

**Above:** A ribbon drops from the fourth floor balcony into the hands of the crowd below.

*Photo by J. Birnbaum*





**O**n a heavy-traffic Saturday along Green St., heads stuck out of car windows, passersby looked up from the sidewalk and a small crowd stood to watch five ribbons drop four stories. Gathered at the base of a brand new brick building, students and alumni cheered as the scissors cut and the ribbons fell, commemorating the move of Illini Media to 512 E. Green.

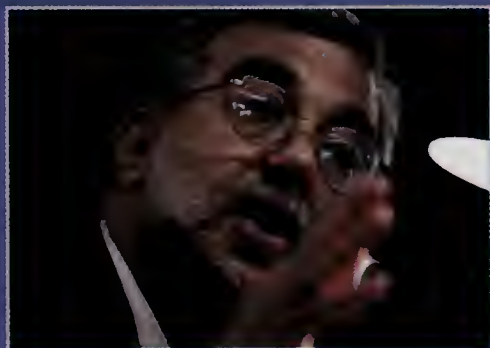


Home to the *Daily Illini* Newspaper, the *Illio* Yearbook, *Buzz* Entertainment Magazine, the *Technograph* Engineering Quarterly and WPGU 107.1 FM, Illini Media opened its on-campus facility in the spring of 2006. This fall, the company invited alums, employees and friends to their "Back to the Heart: Building Dedication Weekend" event—an official celebration of the new location held Sept. 15-17.

"Moving had been our goal for years," said Mary Cory, publisher and general manager of Illini Media. "We wanted everyone to share this experience with us."



Alumni and current staff arrived at the new building on Friday, taking student-led tours of the facility and bidding on items in a silent auction. The punk band The Vertebrats, whose members graduated from the University, played a set in the WPGU studio. Saturday morning, students and alums attended the football game, then returned to the building for the ribbon-cutting ceremony that afternoon. Wrapping up on Sunday morning with a champagne brunch, keynote speakers reminisced about their time at Illini Media and offered encouraging words to current students.



"Those who graduate from this brand new facility...they will be the stars of tomorrow," Charlie Meyerson, WPGU alum and senior producer for *Chicago Tribune* Interactive, said.

The brunch concluded with the induction of the inaugural class to the Hall of Fame—alums who started their successful careers at Illini Media. This group included President of station operations for FOX Television Dennis Swanson, *Chicago Sun-Times* sports writer Taylor Bell, PBS panelist Dan Balz, Pulitzer Prize winner Paul Ingrassia and *New York Times* business and financial editor Larry Ingrassia. Current *Daily Illini* editor-in-chief Vincent Lee noted that meeting the alumni was inspiring for him and his fellow student staff.



"To see all those people who worked at the DI in the '60s and '70s and to see where they are now puts things into perspective," Lee said. "It shows us...we can come from somewhere small and be anything."

Because of the weekend's success, Illini Media will continue to host a similar event at the building each year.

"This building is more than just steel, concrete and bricks," Broadcast Operations Manager for Illini Media Jon Hansen said. "It gives us all a more friendly and welcoming place to call home—and most importantly, this building inspires."

STORY BY LYNDSEY GROTH  
PHOTOS BY JOSH BIRNBAUM  
BECK DIEFENBACH





# ultimate convergence

## NEW ILLINI MEDIA LOCATION SPARKS STUDENT COLLABORATION



What was once a collection of media divisions operating at various locations across campus is now a unified organization under a single roof. In the spring of 2006, Illini Media celebrated the completion of a brand new, four-story building that serves as the home of the *Daily Illini*, *Buzz* entertainment magazine, *Technograph* engineering magazine, the *Illio* yearbook, WPGU 107.1 FM radio station, and the Illini Apple Center.

In its first full year of operation, the Illini Media Building is an invaluable resource to students and staff members. The convenient location at fifth and Green Street allows employees a short commute to work and provides passerbys with a welcoming open door. Students can now watch WPGU's disc jockeys from a state-of-the-art, street-side studio, getting a first-hand look at the activity inside the booth. Inside, new iMac computers are scattered across each floor, spacious conference rooms are commonplace, and there is a sense of bustling excitement and interaction—a stark contrast to the limited resources at former locations.

"I think the design of the building, especially the open space it provides us, is the most important feature," said Michelle Gabris, Director of Marketing for the Illini Media. "At the old WPGU building, there was no place to hold staff meetings or interact with each other."

**Opposite top:** Jonathan Jacobson, junior in LAS and metro editor for the *Daily Illini*, is yelling on the phone, eating, listening to Bob Dylan, and maistrizing. This is a typical evening for the *Daily Illini* editor, who is yelling of one of his writers, "What do you mean you can't have it in by Wednesday?!" Photo by S. Twordowski

**Opposite center:** WPGU staff have a meeting to discuss future radio shows. Photo by S. Twordowski

**Opposite bottom:** The new Illini Media Building lights up Green St. at night. Photo by S. Twordowski

**Above:** WPGU DJs listen to the local band "Triple Whip" during Sunday night's "Satan's Beer Vomit" show. Photo by S. Twordowski

**Left:** Illini Media alum Tammy Mendoza, *Daily Illini* campus editor Vasanth Sridharan, senior in Communications, and design editor Nick Escobar, senior in Communications critique the day's paper in the newsroom. Photo by B. Diefenboch



Because the building proved a better work environment, it sparked a connection between different media outlets—particularly between the print and radio news.

“Once we moved into the new building, it only made sense that since both news departments would be working in the same space, they should be working together,” managing on-air editor Kate Pokarney, senior in Communications, said.

The *Daily Illini* and WPGU could now share content and reporters to create a complete news agency, consisting of the daily paper, Daily Illini on-air news broadcasts, and postings on [www.dailyillini.com](http://www.dailyillini.com). Pokarney said that the convergence has improved Illini Media’s coverage of campus and community news.

“There’s a lot more people to catch the stories we would’ve otherwise missed,” she said.

Newscast Editor Bill Miston, junior in communications, agreed that the multimedia format benefits those who look to Illini Media for their daily news.



“[Presenting] the same story by both print and on-air gives the public a greater knowledge of content and facts,” he said.

With this ultimate convergence, Illini Media gave student publications and radio a much-needed presence at U of I.

“It’s great for students walking by the building to see everything that’s going on,” Daily Illini’s on-air newscast editor Bill Miston, junior in Communications, said. “We have computers that work, we have desks, we have everything we need here to truly represent the students. We’re finally bringing IMC back to the heart of campus.”

STORY BY JIM SHAY  
ADAM SWIAK  
PHOTOS BY STEVE TWARDOWSKI  
BECK DIEFENBACH



**The Daily Illini**  
newspaper



**Buzz**  
weekly entertainment  
magazine



**Illio**  
yearbook



**Technograph**  
engineering quarterly  
magazine



**WPGU 107.1 FM**  
radio station



# facebook adds new features

STUDENTS PROTEST CHANGES TO POPULAR SOCIAL NETWORK



ever feel like someone is watching you? On the morning of September 6, 2006, students around the nation logged on to Facebook, felt this very feeling and experienced a change that has caused more controversy than any other Facebook upgrade. The change came so unexpectedly that college students were unable to prepare for the new way that Facebook would be sharing their information with the world.

The new addition called "News Feed" and "Mini Feed" provide details of daily changes to your friends' profiles upon logging on to the site. Saly Sebastian, a freshman in the College of Business, said, "Facebook is a good way to stay connected with people, but the Mini-Feeds provide usually pointless information, stuff you only want to know about if it's regarding your closest friends."

One of the biggest issues of knowing everything that students do on Facebook at all times is that some people may want that information to

remain a little more private. Another freshman in the College of Business, Yanyan Xu, posted a remark in a group against the new feeds, likening the feeds to Big Brother from "1984" by George Orwell.

Not long after the creator's of Facebook launched the update, students rallied together, reacting to the changes on the networking site. Most decided to form groups on Facebook to complain about the feeds.

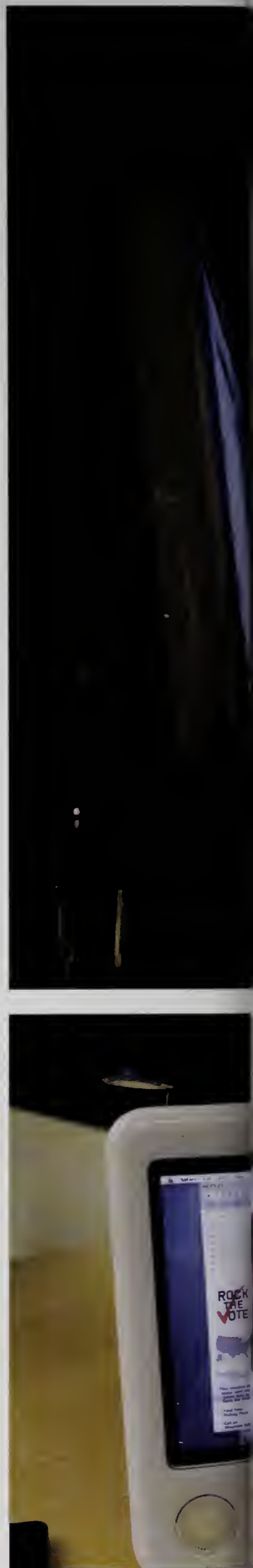
One of the administrators of such a group commented about privacy settings added by Facebook. "The recent privacy settings that were added still don't allow us to have full control of what is placed on the News Feed. Photos, status changes, groups you join are all things that are placed up there, no matter if you want everyone to see them or not," Teera Parr, a sophomore in Animal Sciences said.

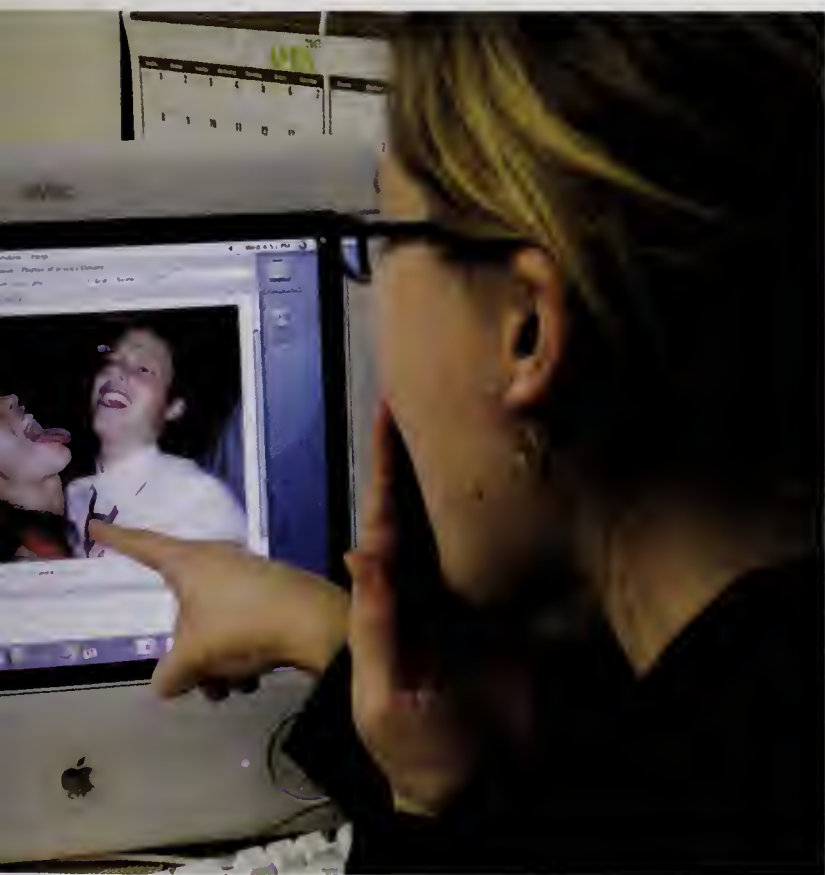
Now that user information was more readily available, some worry that employers could easily research their potential "right-out-of-college" new hires, and learn more from their profile than their résumé or interview.

Nolan Finn, a senior in the College of Business, said, "I can see how the information available on Facebook is enticing to employers, but there is also a great deal of information that employees and employers would best be served by keeping separate, like religion, political views, and sexual orientation."

As one anonymous student said, "Change is inevitable, and as we have already seen, can cause widespread complaint."

STORY BY ADAM SWIATEK  
PHOTOS BY KORI BOYER  
JESSICA ELMORE





**Opposite:** Members log onto their homepage on Facebook and immediately see the News Feed, which displays recent activities of online friends. Because it tracks their every move, some students describe the feed as "stalkerish." *Photo by J. Elmare*

**Above:** Like many students did on Sept. 6, Andrew Davis, senior in LAS, checks his Facebook profile and is appalled to find a feature that tells him down to the minute exactly what his friends are doing. *Photo illustration by J. Elmare*

**Far left:** Samantha Warren, senior in LAS, finds incriminating photos of her friends online that could be found by future employers. *Photo illustration by K. Boyer*

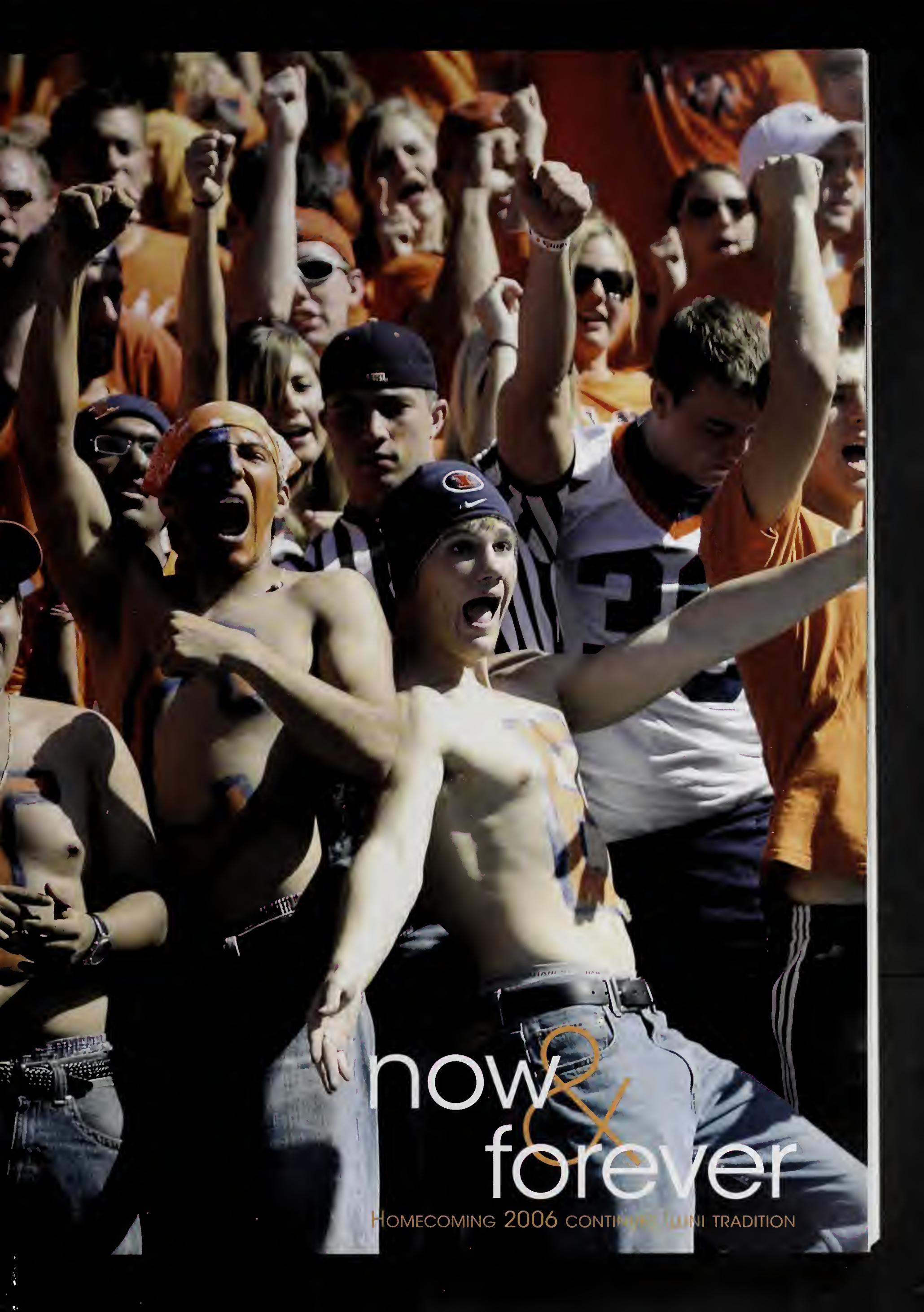
**Left:** Those interested in protecting their privacy formed online groups like "Students Against Facebook News Feed" to protest the site's new features. *Photo by K. Boyer*





Above: Members of the student section cheer on favorite player, quarterback Juice Williams, at the Homecoming game against Indiana University on Oct. 7. Indiana won 34-32. Photo by Beck





# now & forever

Homecoming 2006 continues LUNI tradition



# always an illini

## STUDENTS & ALUMNI CELEBRATE HOMECOMING WEEK

h omecoming 2006 invaded Campustown. Orange and blue clothing covered the streets, scents of delicious food wafted from barbecues, Illini flags whipped proudly through the crisp air and excited chatter could be heard for blocks. Crowds of reminiscing alumni and herds of excited students joined forces, filling the Quad and the air with roaring cheers.

On Sept. 30, the spirit-filled, Homecoming kickoff marked the start of annually awaited week-long celebration. Thousands of U of I students and alumni attended the festivities which included the high-energy parade and pep rally on Oct. 6. The most anticipated display of Fighting Illini pride was the Illinois vs. Indiana football game on Oct. 7.

"This year, the Homecoming parade turned out better than we expected," said Brittney Swan, Homecoming Committee member and sophomore in Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences. "The floats really showed how much time and effort was devoted to the parade's success."

Pat Saladino, a sophomore in Liberal Arts and Sciences, said he displayed his spirit at the football game.

"My buddies and I woke up hours before the game to tailgate and we painted our entire bodies and face half orange, half blue," Saladino said.

Ashley Swarts, a junior in Education and three-year member of the Illinettes Dance Team, said the fans had more energy than in past years.

"For the first time since I started dancing at the games, the stands were jam packed with students and visiting alumni," Swarts said. "The Illini spirit and support was coming from literally every seat in the stadium. It was actually overwhelming."

Another favorite of the week was the African American Homecoming, beginning on Oct. 4 with a pageant and ending Oct. 7 with a concert featuring Avant and One Chance. Nearly 3,000 people participated in the events which were funded entirely by Illini Union Board.

"African American Homecoming brings a different perspective to the University," said Co-Chair Martha Wilkins. "I think it really adds to the University as a whole and makes Homecoming more of a celebration."

Through the 96-year-long tradition of Homecoming, the past, present, and future Fighting Illini experiences the school spirit that invades campus life for one week every year.



STORY BY KATIE TRAFICANTI  
PHOTOS BY BECK DIEFENBACH  
ENOCH CHUNG  
BRAD VEST





**Opposite top:** Members of the University of Illinois Dance Team perform at the corner of Wright and Green Streets during the Homecoming Parade on Oct. 6. *Photo by B. Diefenbach*

**Opposite center:** The Illini Toi Kwon Do Club follows behind a blue and orange-odored Jeep during the parade. *Photo by E. Chung*

**Opposite bottom:** The Illinois defensive line sets up to take on Indiana in Saturday's game on Oct. 7. Illinois lost 32-34. *Photo by B. Vest*

**Above:** Cooch Ron Zook and the Illinois football team rile up the crowd during the pep rally on the night before the Homecoming game against Indiana. *Photo by E. Chung*

**Left:** Members of the sketch comedy group Fishing with Dynamite Devin Bockroth, sophomore in Communications, Alyssa Brodley, freshman in LAS, Neel Chemburkar, freshman in LAS, Amy Boss, sophomore in Communications, Eric Zimmerman, senior in LAS and Annie Rottree, senior in FAA kick off the variety show at Lincoln Hall Oct. 6. *Photo by E. Chung*

# dazed but not so confused

REGISTERED STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS TAKE ON DRUG REFORM

“

Hello. My name is Tim and I'm a criminal, in the eyes of society. I need to be in jail for the choices of herbs I inhale.”

These song lyrics by The Streets exemplify a common stance by people who choose to smoke marijuana and find themselves the target of public authority. The controversy over whether or not smoking marijuana should be seen as a criminal offense is a heated issue among legislators as well as student groups on campus.

National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML) and Students for Sensible Drug Policy (SSDP) are groups with multiple chapters that work toward reforming marijuana and other drug policies. Through hosting speakers, debates, public demonstrations, informative documentaries, and a “Know-Your-Rights” seminar, NORML tried to circulate information about drug reform to students in hopes that they would take an active role in this issue.

Shaleen Aghi, a member of NORML's board of directors, has seen first hand how many people caught using or in possession of drugs (especially marijuana) end up being incarcerated rather than being treated for their addiction.

According to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration's projections, “over one million individuals in Illinois needed treatment for drug disorders in 2004, but only 10 percent

received treatment,” Aghi said. “We think that it's a myth that addicts make a choice and don't want to get help; drug addiction should be treated like any other health disorder.”

Aghi believes that in time, drug reform will happen and regulating marijuana use among young adults will benefit society. However, groups such as NORML are not the only people interested in drug reform. Some people who smoke marijuana think legalization is necessary and in fact, common sense. “I don't understand why pot, which has never killed anyone, can make you a criminal, but alcohol which causes deaths all of the time, is totally fine,” said Dan Adams.\* “It makes no sense.”

Many “potheads,” as society tags them, say they do well in school and participate in activities but at the same time thoroughly enjoy the high they get from smoking weed.

Matt Smith\*, who smokes marijuana two to three times a day, explains his high as a pleasant experience.

“Everything just makes sense,” he said. “I'm alert and less stressed, and I can think a lot better.” Although smoking marijuana is currently illegal, reformers and students hope to see a change in the near future. *\*names have been changed*

STORY BY JESSICA MILLER  
PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY LINDSAY OLSON





## did you know?



Source: [www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov](http://www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov)

MARIJUANA IS THE  
**MOST USED** ILLEGAL  
DRUG IN THE UNITED  
STATES.

TODAY'S MARIJUANA  
IS **10 TO 15 TIMES**  
STRONGER THAN IT  
WAS IN THE 60s.

APPROXIMATELY  
**34%** OF COLLEGE  
STUDENTS USE  
MARIJUANA.

## TO LEGALIZE OR NOT TO LEGALIZE



GRATEFUL

"I am actually for the legalization of marijuana in general, not just for medicinal purposes. If you consider how much more dangerous and harmful alcohol is, it really doesn't make sense that we waste so much effort and money on trying to fight something that isn't even that dangerous."

—Stanton McConnell  
sophomore in LAS



"I think that in some medicinal cases marijuana should be legalized, but I also think that there is a serious danger of it being misused and taken advantage of."

—Molly McElhorne  
junior in LAS



# fillin' up at fat don's

SPECIALTY RESTAURANT SERVES THOUSANDS EACH WEEK

**W**ednesday evenings in Peabody dining hall are a flurry of huge steaks, giant baked potatoes, and moist brownies. Students from all over campus travel to the meal that can satisfy any appetite at Fat Don's.

Fat Don's, a specialty restaurant at the University, provides students with an alternative to typical dorm food. Every Wednesday from 4:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., employees hand out tickets to hundreds of students who anxiously wait in line for their chance to consume the great food of Fat Don.

"Fat Don's owns me," Drake Baer, sophomore in Liberal Arts and Sciences said. "I leave feeling satisfied, if not painfully full."

Brendan Powers, freshman in Liberal Arts and Sciences and Fat Don's employee, said about 2500 students eat at Fat Don's each week. The large numbers served make Wednesdays very hectic for the staff.

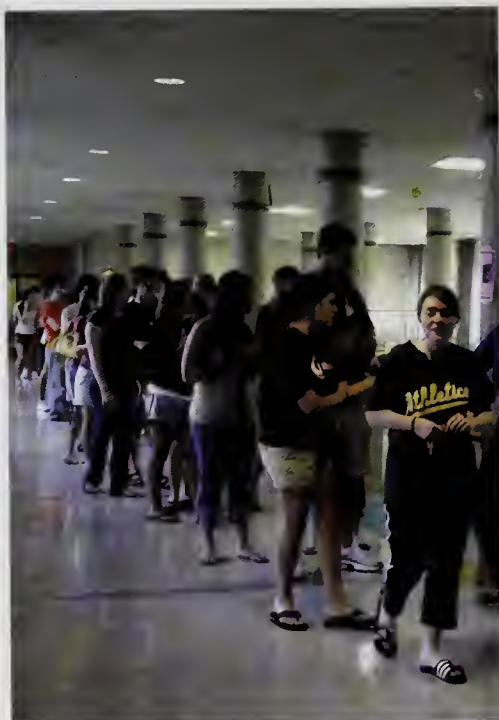
"We don't really have a chance to start preparing until Wednesday, so Wednesday afternoons are very busy," Powers said.

The main menu often includes Salisbury steak, burgers, potatoes, ribs, and corn on the cob. For dessert, students can indulge in giant chocolate-chip cookies or brownies. Powers said it takes many student employees to prepare the large amount of food for so many people.

"We have a half dozen cooks who make food on charcoal grills on the sidewalks outside," Powers said. "Employees like me are always busy moving food from the grills to inside."

Powers admitted that it is overwhelming working in a busy environment like Fat Don's, but rewarding to see so many enjoy his hard work.

Besides Fat Don's, students can eat at six other specialty dining hall restaurants on campus, including the vegetarian-inspired Field of Greens located in Lincoln Avenue Residence Hall and Coppa at Illinois Street Residence Hall.



STORY BY ERIC SCHULZ  
PHOTOS BY ENOCH CHUNG





## a word with the cook

Thirteen years ago, Don Block, associate director of dining services for residence halls, created the "Fat Don's" concept during a meeting with the dining hall staff.

"Why not make a restaurant with all the foods that I like?" he said.

When Fat Don's first started, the restaurant only served 200 students. Each year it became more popular until it outgrew the original location and was moved to the Peabody dining hall, Block said.

"I think students really enjoy it because it's comfort food," Block said. "Not everyday can a college student get a 16 oz. charbroiled steak or chicken breast. Students can come to Fat Don's to spend time with their friends and eat a good meal."

STORY BY **BRITTANY BEKAS**



**Opposite top:** The crowd waits in line at Weston Hall to get into Fat Don's.

**Opposite bottom:** Luke Yarger, senior in ACES, distributes tickets to people waiting in line at Peabody Dining Hall's specialty restaurant.

**Left:** Dan Block (also known as Fat Don) oversees the grill during Wednesday night's highly anticipated meal.

**Above:** Dieterich Herndabler, senior in FAA, Tom Tracy, sophomore in LAS and Alan Francis, junior in LAS, help prepare steaks for Fat Don's weekly meal.





# state of the debate

CONTROVERSY OVER CHIEF ILLINIWEK CONTINUES

Chief Illiniwek stood in an empty hall outside Huff gym, arms crossed over his chest, feathers trailing down his back. He lightly tapped his bare feet in the double step he has danced for 80 years. With the start of a drum beat from the band, Chief Illiniwek stepped into the 81st year many fans and opponents thought would never come.

The start of the 2006 Illinois athletics season marked a bittersweet milestone for the controversial school symbol. Performing this fall season meant the Chief had survived a full year of NCAA rulings. The prolonged debate re-affirmed Illiniwek's place on the hot seat for yet another year.





Below: Chief Illiniwek, the official University of Illinois symbol, is under scrutiny by many groups because it is seen as derogatory towards American Indian cultures

In Aug. 2005, the NCAA placed the Chief on a list of "hostile and abusive" uses of American Indian imagery in the realm of college athletics. The judgment meant that Illinois could not host any postseason athletic competitions as long as the symbol survived.

"We've found that we've benefited by not reacting too quickly to things we learn from the NCAA," University Board of Trustees president Larry Epley said. "It's served us well so far, and I suspect it will continue to serve us well."

The University spent nearly nine months appealing the NCAA decision, but without an in-state tribe to argue for the Chief mascot, there was little hope the NCAA would back down.

So when Chief Illiniwek stepped to the court for the first Friday night volleyball match, it was amid turmoil and great debate.

Controversy has followed the Chief closely for nearly two decades. Opponents of the mascot say it is a racist stereotype, degrading to the American Indian cultures he purports to represent. They applaud the NCAA's suggestion that the Chief be retired, saying it is time to put the eight-decade tradition to bed.

"The NCAA has the obligation and responsibility to ensure that its championships are conducted in a way that respects sportsmanship and respects the points of view and ethnicities of its fans and its players," NCAA President Myles Brand said after striking down Illinois' final appeal.

To his supporters, Illiniwek is a beloved symbol of the University. He represents noble virtues of bravery, honor and loyalty. His performance is done with respect, supporters say, and therefore should not be seen as offensive.

As 2006 rolled into 2007, however, it became apparent that something would soon change. The Board of Trustees began meeting with interested parties across the spectrum of Illiniwek opinions, hoping to find a way to reach an illusive "consensus resolution."

"Everybody who is concerned about the University, about the Chief Illiniwek tradition, about our ability to run a high-level athletic program began to throw out ideas, to brainstorm," University spokesman Tom Hardy said.

STORY BY COURTNEY LINEHAN  
PHOTO BY BECK DIEFFENBACH

## CONTINUING THE DISCUSSION: ANTI-CHIEF OR PRO-CHIEF?

### Anti-Chief

"A Native American as a dancing, half-time, football mascot? Demeaning—no question. I think it's weird there's even a controversy."

—William Smith  
junior in LAS

### Pro-Chief

"Chief Illiniwek is a sign of pride and honor. All I know is that if the Chief is gone, so is a lot of money from a lot of alumni."

—Brandon Bleess  
junior in LAS

### Anti-Chief

"I'm not Native American, so it doesn't offend me—but if Native Americans say it's offensive, we need to believe them."

—Ellen Dahlke  
junior in LAS

### Pro-Chief

"I think it's a sign of honor and people get too worked up over it."

—Sarah De Runtz  
senior in LAS





# fighting the fifteen

PERSONAL TRAINERS HELP STUDENTS STAY IN SHAPE



**A** reality known to many students, the dreaded “freshman 15” seems impossible to lose. Although many factors contribute to weight gain during college, extra pounds can be avoided by following helpful tips from CRCE personal trainers.

Campus Rec Center-East (CRCE), located at 1102 W. Gregory Drive, Urbana, is home to a staff of 25 personal trainers, including Michelle Mermelstein and Chris Nasti. As personal trainers, they encourage professors and students of all ages to maintain a healthier lifestyle that incorporates exercise into their daily routine.

“I love helping people with fitness,” said Mermelstein, a senior in Applied Health Sciences. “It’s so much fun watching someone notice a change in themselves, and it’s great knowing that you’re actually making a difference in their life.”

Mermelstein has been a personal trainer at CRCE for two years, after passing the National Academy of Sports Medicine (NASM) exam. She said the NASM exam details what a trainer is advised to do with their clients and how to progress them through a fitness program. She said that the trainers are required to pass a practical exam through CRCE before becoming certified.

**Opposite top:** Trainer Michelle Mermelstein, senior in AHS, demonstrates an exercise to her client.

**Opposite center:** Trainer Michelle Mermelstein, senior in AHS, works with her client Liso Ellis, a graduate student in Education. Ellis says she tries to train at least once a week with Mermelstein.

**Opposite bottom:** Jill Belsley, sophomore in Communications, watches as personal trainer Kristi Nelmark, senior in AHS, sets up a weight machine for her. Belsley says that she has been working with Nelmark since the start of fall semester and is trying to get in shape for the Miss Illinois Beauty Pageant.

**Above:** Kristi Nelmark, senior in AHS, coaches Jill Belsley, sophomore in Communications, through an arm strengthening exercise at CRCE.



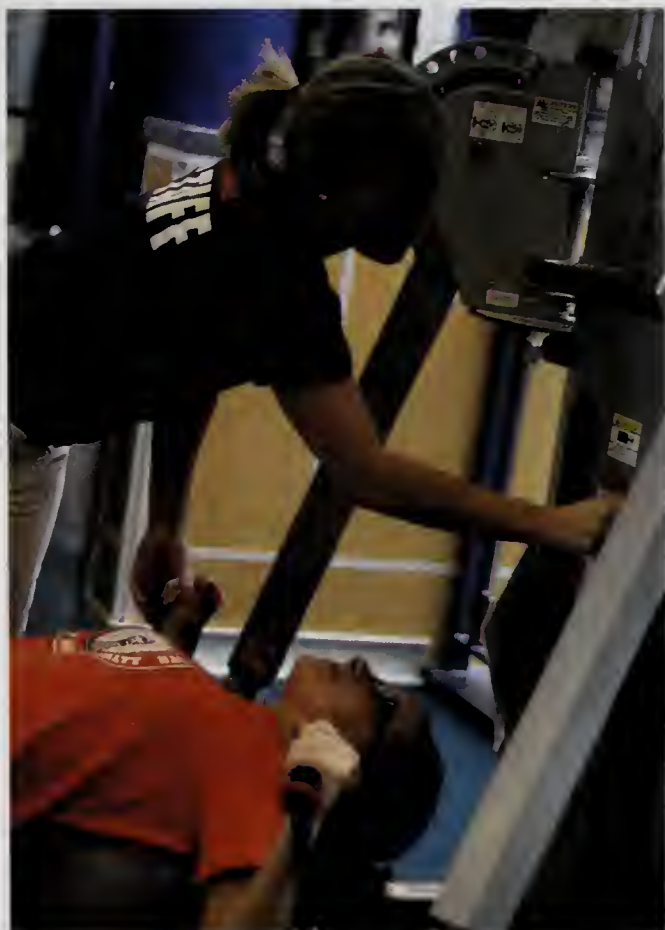
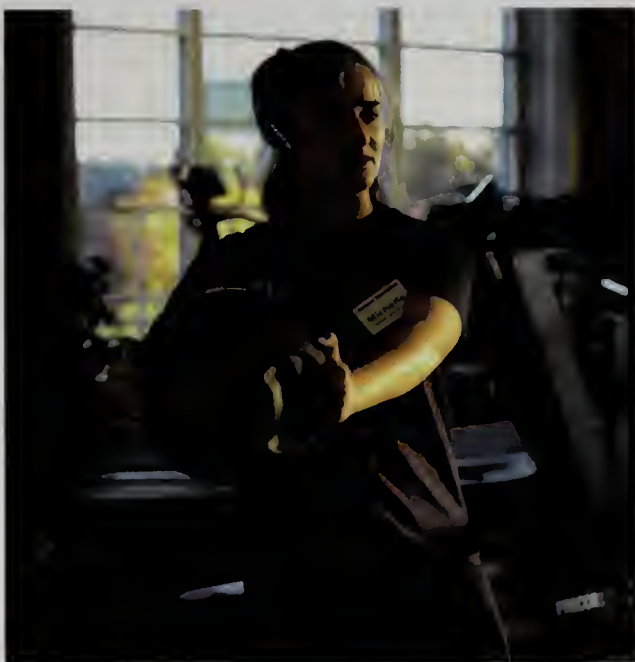
Working as a Student Director at CRCE, Mermelstein has three clients this semester. She trains members of the faculty as well as undergraduate and graduate students.

"I try and meet with them to discuss their goals, what they're looking to achieve, in addition to their health history and personal interests," Mermelstein said. "Then, we try to put together a program that fits them best."

Chris Nasti, a graduate student in Applied Health Sciences, has worked as a personal trainer for four years. He trains anywhere from two to 15 hours a week with a clientele of professors and graduate students.

According to Nasti, CRCE offers a wide variety of fitness packages which depend on the individual's experience, time availability, and budget.

"For \$30, fitness assessments are available



to students," Nasti said. "The individual is taken through a series of health and fitness related tests such as heart rate and blood pressure, body fat percentage, and a movement assessment to determine any postural or muscular imbalances."

For personal training packages, rates are based on whether the individual prefers to work out individually, with a partner, or in a small group of people. From there, one can choose to buy a four, eight or 12-session package.

"If people are looking for the trainer to simply set them up and teach them what to do, then the four-session package would be suitable," Nasti said. "But if people are looking to work out with a trainer on a more continual basis, then the 12-session package is a better deal."

Although it can be difficult to schedule and find the time to meet with clients with such busy schedules of their own, Mermelstein and Nasti love their jobs.

"I enjoy helping clients who actually have health-related concerns," Nasti said. "Helping them become healthier—or at least feel healthier—is rewarding for us both."

STORY BY **KATIE KRITZBERG**  
PHOTOS BY **CHRISTINA LEUNG**

# testing the limits

FORMER AMBASSADOR & PROFESSOR DISCUSS  
NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN NORTH KOREA



**W**ith guest speakers Thomas C. Hubbard, former U.S. ambassador to the Republic of Korea from 2001 to 2004, and Jae-Jung Suh, a professor of government at Cornell University, a public forum concerning the North Korean crisis took place in the Armory Building at 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 17. The speakers discussed security implications in responding to the North Korean nuclear test and diplomatic options that the United States can take.

Relations between North Korea and its neighbors had grown tense as the world waited to see if the secretive nation would go through with its claim that it had the right to build and test a nuclear weapon. The answer came in the form of a blast in a deserted mine shaft with the power of a 4.2 magnitude earthquake. Decades of negotiations had failed to prevent the regime of Kim

Jung Il to create a nuclear weapon and it was the world's turn to respond.

On the morning of Oct. 9, 2006 the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) gave the Chinese government a 20-minute notice that it was conducting a nuclear test. China relayed this information to the United States government, who confirmed on Oct. 16 that, based on measurements of the levels of radioactive particles in the air over the supposed nuclear test site, indeed there was a nuclear explosion in North Korea.

The regime of Kim Jung Il stated that its development of a nuclear weapons program was needed as a response to U.S. efforts to topple its government. The United Nations called the North Korean test "provocative" and on Oct. 14 imposed a wide set of economic sanctions on the already poor nation.





**Above:** Jae-Jung Suh, a professor of government at Cornell University, describes specifics of the North Korean nuclear project at the Armory Building on Oct. 17.

"I think the U.S. needs to do more bilaterally if we are serious about diplomatic solutions," Hubbard said.

President Bush has requested North Korea to agree to restart six-party talks with the U.S., Japan, South Korea, Russia, and China. North Korea has refused this solution, stating that any sanctions enforced by these nations will be considered an 'act of war'.

Patrick Gill, sophomore in Liberal Arts and Sciences, is a student in the political science department. In agreement with Ambassador Hubbard's thoughts on diplomatic solutions to the crisis, he said, "The U.S. should use bilateral talks instead of six-party talks in order to have more control on what happens in Korea."

"Worst case scenario has become the predominant mindset," said Suh when asked about the diplomatic strategies of the six nations closely

involved in the crisis. "It's not my fault, it's your fault,"

The nation of South Korea is a close ally to the U.S. and currently there are about 35,000 American soldiers stationed on the Korean peninsula. During his visit to the University of Illinois, Ambassador Hubbard addressed the role of American service men and women in the crisis.

"A military solution to this problem is not feasible," he said.

Gill insisted that although the events in East Asia seem to be very distant from our campus in central Illinois, they are of great importance to students at our university, some of whom are originally from Korea, Japan, China or Russia.

"This crisis will immediately affect how people vote in the upcoming election, which in the long run will affect America's foreign and domestic policies," Gill said.

STORY BY **ERIC SCHULZ**  
PHOTO BY **ENOCH CHUNG**



# thrill of the night

ALLEN HALL ZOMBIE HORDE LURKS THROUGH  
CAMPUSTOWN IN CELEBRATION OF HALLOWEEN

† he Saturday night scene on Green St. is fairly predictable: energized students taking advantage of the numerous bars, cafés, and restaurants. However on Oct. 28, Green St. took on a new personality when a crowd of 200 zombies flooded the sidewalks of Campustown.

The Zombie Horde was created by J.P. Goguen, a senior in the College of Fine and Applied Arts. Goguen said he created the "Zombie Horde" to promote the spookier side of Halloween. He had dreamed up the idea of a Halloween horde with



his friends during his freshman year, but the idea did not materialize until his junior year at Allen Hall.

Allen Hall residents were informed through flyers and Facebook about the event. Those who had participated last year also helped to recruit approximately 200 students, 150 more than last year.

Participants achieved a scary persona by applying ghoulish white make-up and baby powder on their faces and bodies, and hollowing out their eyes in black face paint. They also created false wounds using fake blood and tissue paper, and “brains,” using oatmeal.

In addition, the participants were taught the dance from Michael Jackson’s “Thriller” video by Amy Swanson, a junior in the College of Fine and Applied Arts. They performed the routine during their walk through campus.

The Zombie Horde began their walk through Illinois Street Residents Hall at 9 p.m., and then proceeded down Green Street. Throughout their walk they captured the attention of many other students. Some pedestrians even followed the Horde to see where they would go and what they would do next.

“There were all kinds of reactions—awe, confusion, and terror—because there were so many zombies,” Groguen said.

The mob embraced chilling, zombie characters by knocking and breathing on windows. They startled passersby, jumping out from behind trees and running after them. They also terrorized passengers in cars and buses by surrounding the vehicles.

“It turned into a competition to scare people,” Groguen said.

Groguen said the horde did not break character even when approached by reporters and photographers. He said the “zombies” responded to questions by moaning and groaning.

Groguen said the most attention the Zombie Horde had was at WPGU. The station played “Thriller” over the radio for the participants to dance to.

“The best part about participating in the Zombie Horde was entertaining the people on the streets and in the bars with our “Thriller” moves after hours and hours of practice,” said Megan McDermott, a freshman in the College of Education.

As midnight approached, the Zombie Horde crept back home to Allen Hall, but students continued to reminisce about the “living dead” they saw on Green St. that Saturday night.

STORY BY **JORIE JOHNSON**  
PHOTOS BY **JOSH BIRNBAUM**  
**BECK DIEFENBACH**  
**ROXANA RYAN**



**Top:** A zombie scientist holds up a boom box playing Michael Jackson’s “Thriller” as fellow members of the undead dance in front of Kam’s Bar, 618 E. Daniel. Photo by B. Diefenbach

**Center:** Groaning as they approach a car on Green St., students dressed as zombies participate in the Zombie Horde, an Allen Hall pre-Halloween activity that attracted about 200 participants. Photo by J. Birnbaum

**Left:** Members of the mob invade the computer lab of Illinois Street Residence Hall. Photo by R. Ryan

**Opposite:** Walking down S. Gregory St. in Urbana, students pretend to be the living dead on the weekend before Halloween. Photo by J. Birnbaum





# on the catwalk

LATINO FASHION SHOW INCLUDES DIVERSE MODELS

m

Yrna Rivas floated down the runway on Nov. 4, 2006, reflecting the long hours that she and other students put into the making of the year's Latino fashion show, "Noche de Travesura," or "Night of Mischief."

First time model and freshman in Liberal Arts and Sciences, Rivas auditioned in September to model in the annual show, hosted by the Illini Union Board. The audition required walking and posing for the judges. Participation was not limited to Latino models.





Celena Santana, senior in Liberal Arts and Sciences and Latino Programs Chair for Illini Union Board, said that a diverse group of models participated in the show.

"(The models) don't have to be Latino," Santana said. "That's a major misconception. We don't discriminate, as long as you have confidence."

The diversity of the models contributed to a greater diversity in the audience as well, accomplishing a long-time goal of the show's coordinators.

Carla Cofre, junior in Liberal Arts and Sciences and Area Coordinator for Cultural Programs for the Illini Union Board, said the title may have implied the show was exclusively Latino, "but we encouraged everyone to come out and see it."

Santana believed the committee achieved its goal.

"I definitely think there was a diverse audience," she said. "It reached out to more people than I thought it would."

The time and hard work put into the show's production lead to its success.

"It looks easy," Santana said. "But people don't realize what it takes to make it look so easy."

Each model was assigned a scene such as "formal" or "night life" and dressed accordingly. They then created original walks and poses to display their clothes. While some models used clothes from their own closets, some of the clothing was borrowed from local stores.

Cofre said getting mens' clothing proved to be the one of the biggest challenges.

"A lot of clothing companies have a 'been-there, done-that' attitude. They don't want to do it again," Cofre said. "Other companies are corporate and can't [provide clothes] because they would have to go through headquarters."

Despite those challenges, Santana said all the hard work paid off in the end.

"I was speechless," she said. "I constantly thanked my models and my committee because it wouldn't have been a show without them. It came out perfectly and exceeded my standards and expectations completely."

STORY BY **KATHY KHAZANOVA**  
PHOTOS BY **ALISA AUGELLO**

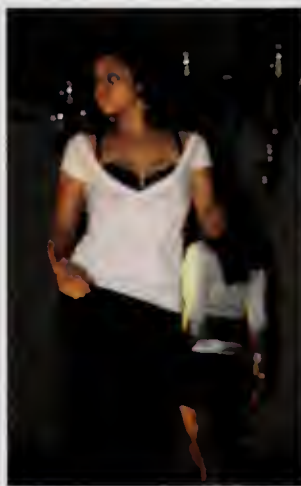
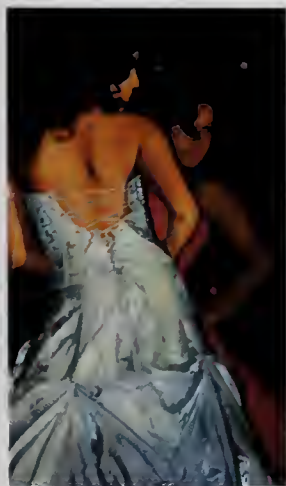
**Opposite:** Jayanet Prada, Jahaira Prada, Rosy Luga and Myrna Rivas, all freshmen in LAS, pose in formal wear.

**Far left:** Twin sisters Jahaira and Jayanet Prada, freshmen in LAS, walk in their formal wear.

**Left center:** Representing Uruguay, Jessie Avilez, sophomore in LAS, holds the hand of Maria Barrientas, senior in LAS.

**Right center:** Male models include Kenneth Fang, freshman in Business, Tray Pryor, undergrad in LAS, Jashua Nichols, senior in LAS, and Wayne Fredericksan, senior in LAS.

**Far right:** Christina Kurawski, undergrad in LAS, struts her stuff in the opening act.





# democrats dominate elections

STATE, NATIONAL ELECTIONS PROVE SUCCESSFUL FOR DEMOCRATIC PARTY

†his year's local and national elections were marked by candidate visits to campus, late-breaking scandals, and a virtual trouncing by the Democrats in the United States House.

Locally, the Student Senate held an ice cream social open to students who wanted the opportunity to meet and personally ask questions of local candidates.

Amanda Palozza, chair of the Outreach and Government Affairs Committee, said that the event gave students a way to get to know candidates without the traditional, intimidating setting of debates.

"It's a great way for first-time voters to get to know local candidates, figure out their beliefs, then think and vote for themselves and the issues they stand for," she said.

Dr. David Gill, democrat in the race for the 15th Congressional District, attended the Ice Cream Social held by the Student Senate on Oct. 13th, along with several other candidates vying for the student vote. Gill was eventually beaten on election day by Republican incumbent Tim Johnson, who secured his perfect election record since winning a seat in the state House in 1976. Johnson did not attend the ice cream social, but was represented by his press secretary.

Other candidates present at the event included Democrat Mike Frerichs, who bested Republican incumbent Judy Myers for the 52nd State Senate District, as well as Democratic incumbent Naomi Jakobsson, who was re-elected into the 103rd State House District.

Jakobsson felt that the best way to encourage students to vote was to spark their interest as early as elementary school. She attended schools in the district and introduced state government at the fourth grade level. She also hosted a "Create-a-Bill" contest to get kids excited and interested in how government can work for them.

"You don't want to wait until high school to get them involved – start when they're young," Jakobsson said. "There's a new bill that minors can go into polling booths with adults. Hopefully this instigates discussions when the family gets home about government."

The voter turnout in Champaign County reached 47.21 percent.

At the gubernatorial level, it was the incumbent Gov. Rod Blagojevich who raked in a victory with approximately 49 percent of the votes, while his Republican opponent Judy Baar Topinka received 40 percent. Green party candidate Rich Whitney won 11 percent of the vote, which proved that third party candidates can be a viable option for Illinois Voters unhappy with traditional parties.

Gov. Blagojevich spent nearly \$20 million on negative campaigns against Baar Topinka, whom former Gov. Jim Edgar said was "outspent five to one."

"People don't like negative commercials, but unfortunately he was able to make those in a manner that made it very hard for her," Edgar said.

Analysts were unsure of which candidate would win this election, even on election day.



## what issues influence your vote? ●●●●●

"Political stances on abortion and stem cell research will influence my vote. I am also looking at how the candidate will spend our money."

—Tiffany Bustamonte  
senior in LAS





"I think the people have given us a strong message, and I hear the call for change," Blagojevich said. "I hear the call for action, and I'm ready to lead."

Quinn said that the top issue for Blagojevich and himself is providing quality health care, especially for children, as well as continuing their support of higher level education.

Nationally, Republicans were hurt by the Mark Foley (R-Fla.) scandal, who admitted to sending sexually lewd and lascivious e-mails to a male congressional page. Former Speaker of the House Dennis Hastert (R-Ill.) was put on the spot by Democrats after being accused of hiding this information from the House Ethics Committee.

The Democrats now command 55 percent of the seats in the House, taking firm control back for the first time in 12 years.

Nancy Pelosi, a democrat of California, will serve as the new Speaker of the House, the first woman in history to hold the position. She and her fellow Democrats have a number of issues they are ready to push through in the new Congress, but they are first and foremost concerned with pressing the White House to change course in Iraq.

STORY BY **JEN BRANDT**  
PHOTOS BY **STEVE TWARDOWSKI**  
**THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

**Opposite:** Carlos Coceres, junior in Communications, interviews Democrat Mike Frericks. *Photo by S. Twardowski*  
**Above:** Democratic Gov. Rod Blagojevich shakes hands with commuters of the CTA Jefferson Park train station in Chicago. The night before, Blagojevich celebrated his re-election victory over Republican Judy Boor Topinka. *Photo courtesy of the Associated Press*

"I try to look for a healthy balance of issues such as foreign policy, women's rights and environmental focus. Also I am looking at the candidates history of spending money, because that is a big issue."

—**Jessica Blair**  
junior in ACES

"I hate to say it, but I missed registration again this year. I would have made a point of doing so had this been a presidential race. But Baar Topinka and Blagojevich are so distasteful, I don't think I would vote for either."

—**Nicholas Jefferson**  
sophomore in Communications

"It seems like this year's campaigns, like the race for governor, have been mostly negative and personal. The candidates haven't focused on issues that are important, such as the U.S.-Mexico border, and that leaves voters in the dark."

—**Jeremy Werner**  
sophomore in Communications

# nineteen and on the scene

STUDENTS REACH ENTRY AGE, BECOME REGULARS AT CAMPUS BARS

**O**n any given weeknight, the bars on campus were more crowded than one might think considering nearly half of the student body was not even old enough to drink yet. That is what makes U of I campus bars so unique.

Here, 19-year-olds are admitted.

"Turning 19 is freedom," Liz Carrington, freshman in the College of Engineering, said.

After freshmen turn 19, the cities of Champaign and Urbana give these soon-to-be 20-somethings an opportunity to divulge themselves in the bar scene a few years prior to their 21st birthdays.

Of all the other state schools in Illinois including ISU, EIU, NIU, SIU, and UIC, the University is the only one in which 19 year-olds are admitted into bars legally. It is the only state school offering a glimpse into the future of life as a 21-year-old.

This municipal code leads to another interesting element at the bars. Grace Gondela, sophomore in the college of Liberal Arts and Sciences, works at a bar on campus as a "shot girl." She said, "Having 19-year-olds in the bar is extra work. There is added pressure not to serve underage students drinks because it puts my job at risk."

Whether your allegiance lies with Tuesday's wine night at The Clybourne, Wednesday's bomb night at CO's, or with any of the other wildly popular specials nights at the bars on campus, there is no denying the high level of dedication of these loyal attendees who would not miss their favorite weeknight special for the world.

Erica Aceret, a sophomore in Communications, was an adamant attendee of bomb night at CO's

and attested to the reasoning behind this special bond some students developed with their favorite specials night.

"You can always see the same crowd," Aceret said. "When you go to bomb night you're going to see the same people you've seen every Wednesday night. The specials are awesome. It's the time of the week to go to CO's."

For some students, however, it was hard to push the memory of past specials nights to the back of their mind. With the closing of Gully's this summer, the campus bar scene lost perhaps its most treasured event in Monday night Gully's. Emily Berkowitz, a sophomore in ACES, was just one of the many students who felt a part of their weekly social life died when Gully's shut its doors.

"Monday night Gully's was definitely the best bar night on campus," says Berkowitz. "You could always count on great drink specials and having all your friends around to hang out."

Some students said they had a lot of trouble filling the void left by Gully's closure, having tried out Monday-night specials at other campus bars and being left disappointed.

Though waking up the next morning may have proved to be a harrowing ordeal, it was well worth it for the specials nights' faithful. The hazy recollections and hysterical events of the night before promised to form lasting memories in the minds of devoted students that will never be topped. That is, not until next week.

STORY BY JIM SHAY  
PHOTOS BY JESSICA ELMORE







**Above:** Dressed in all different shades of pink, students wait in a long line to get into the annual 'Pink Party' at C.O. Daniel's. The bar, located at 608 E. Daniel, even featured a pink-painted facade for that night only.

**Left:** Signs of favorite campus bars glow until 2 a.m. every night of the week.

# keeping the faith

## STUDENTS FIND WAYS TO WORSHIP WHILE AWAY FROM HOME

Religion on campus was more than attending services and reciting prayers. It was also an array of organizations designed to help students outwardly practice their faith, and connect to fellow students who held similar beliefs. Cru, also known as the Campus Crusade for Christ, was a Christian organization that sponsored Bible studies, retreats, meetings, and socials, in hopes of bringing its participants closer to God.

Jill Rollin, a freshman in the College of Engineering, said, "Cru helped me to know that other people are there for you that believe the same thing. I have been bolder in my faith and felt like I could stand up for it."

Cru Getaways took members off campus for a weekend in order to allow them to focus on getting to know both God and each other on a deeper level. However, Cru was just one of the organizations on campus focused on bringing its members deeper into their religion.

Other organizations included, but were not limited to, The Hillel Foundation, a Jewish association, Buddhists for World Peace, and Intervarsity, a group for any follower of Christ.

Religious organizations helped students do more than just develop their faith. Freshman students found that being part of a religious organization was helpful in the process of adjusting to campus life. Through the new-students retreat and a fall getaway, offered by Intervarsity and Cru,

new members could become accustomed to both the organization and their fellow members.

"Cru was a loving community that made me feel welcome among people who shared my same beliefs," Rollin said. "I got connected to a lot of other freshman in the same position as me."

Others found religious organizations a helpful reminder that there were other religious persons on campus.

"Cru was a constant reminder that there is a huge number of Christians on campus and that it is possible to be a Christian without being persecuted," said Ashley Meitl, a freshman in the College of Education.

In addition, students discovered participation in a religious group kept them sane and grounded in a college atmosphere that can often generate the opposite.

"It taught me to keep my morals and stand firm in what I believe," said Meitl.

Groups made it their personal mission to help students find a balance between student life and religious life. According to its mission statement, "The Hillel Foundation helps students find a balance in being distinctively Jewish and universally human."

No matter what their affiliation or situation, the university proved to be an environment in which faith can grow rather than be abandoned.

STORY BY **JORIE JOHNSON**  
PHOTOS BY **DAN HOLLANDER**

## WHAT EFFECT DOES A COLLEGE ENVIRONMENT HAVE ON RELIGIOUS PRACTICES?



"I have found many people and organizations on campus that help me strengthen my faith for the better. I have joined Greek Intervarsity and a Bible study in my sorority for this reason. Being a part of these groups helps me grow closer to other people as well as to God."

—Diane Javier  
sophomore in LAS



"I am Jewish, and back home no one really cared. I casually went to temple on holidays as just kind of a standard Jewish thing. But since arriving here I have noticed that I have actually been judged because of my religion, and it has affected the way people have looked at me."

—Alex Grunstein  
freshman in LAS





**Above:** Both University students and community members dig in during a buffet dinner put on by Chabad Jewish Student Association to celebrate breaking the fast of Yom Kippur at the Illini Union Colonial Room.



"Through Cru (Campus Crusade for Christ) I have found a lot of people who share the same views as I have. I am taking part in a Bible Study in Westan right now through Cru which has enabled me to continue practicing my religious faith."

—Margaret Triebel  
freshman in LAS



"Being in a college environment does influence religious practice because of the various backgrounds and the various beliefs. People either get involved in religious activities or distance themselves. It is often influence from peers who either attend activities or don't."

—Puja Shah  
junior in AHS



# center for ceremony

JAPAN HOUSE INVITES LOCALS FOR TEA AND TRADITION



In the United States, serving tea is as simple as dropping a pre-packaged tea bag into a cup of hot water. But in Japan, the preparation of tea is a highly honored art form with its own philosophy, developed over 400 years ago. Chado, or "the way of tea" involves a very delicate and ceremonial performance centered on the principles of harmony, respect, purity, and tranquility.

The Japan House, located in the southeastern corner of campus since 1998, offers instruction to students and members of the community who are interested in the intricate tea ceremony. Karen Remsen, sophomore in Fine and Applied Arts, described the tea ceremony as a culmination of the Japanese arts.

"You have the visual arts because you have the actual tea objects, which are considered pieces of art," Remsen said. "And, it's also a performance

art because they have steps and you have to do it a certain way. It's almost like a dance."

At the beginning of the ceremony, each utensil is carefully cleaned and then placed in a very specific arrangement. Next, measured amounts of tea and hot water are poured into a bowl and whisked. Upon receiving the tea from the host, the guest is expected to perform certain movements such as a particular expression and a bow to a set level. The host ceremonially cleans the utensils after the tea is enjoyed. The process is savored, lasting anywhere from one to five hours.

During the ceremony, emphasis is placed on the relationship between the host and the guest.

"In Western culture we have such a different idea about what interaction between people is," Remsen said. "We think of interaction as talking, talking, talking. In Japan, talking is very subtle. So, if you're not talking you're almost interacting more."

Mindi Porebski, freshman in Liberal Arts and Sciences, believes that the tea ceremony serves as a great way to relieve stress during a busy week.

"It becomes really a place of calm and peace for my mind," Porebski said. "I just feel, you know, good and peaceful and harmonized."

Through her class at Japan House, Porebski learned about Chado and how the practice of tea ceremony can be applied to everyday life. She said that an important aspect of the tea ceremony is its ability to bring healing to the body and mind.

"They have this concept—in Japanese it's called kokoro—and it means 'mind and body and spirit and soul,'" Porebski said. "And, it's translated in all these ways because it's all of your being. And they say your kokoro is supposed to be good, so it's kind of the way to cleanse that and make you feel at peace with yourself."

Remsen and Porebski encourage everyone to participate in a tea ceremony and agree that any visit to Japan House is a unique experience.

STORY BY COURTNEY COPPERNOLL  
PHOTOS BY ENOCH CHUNG







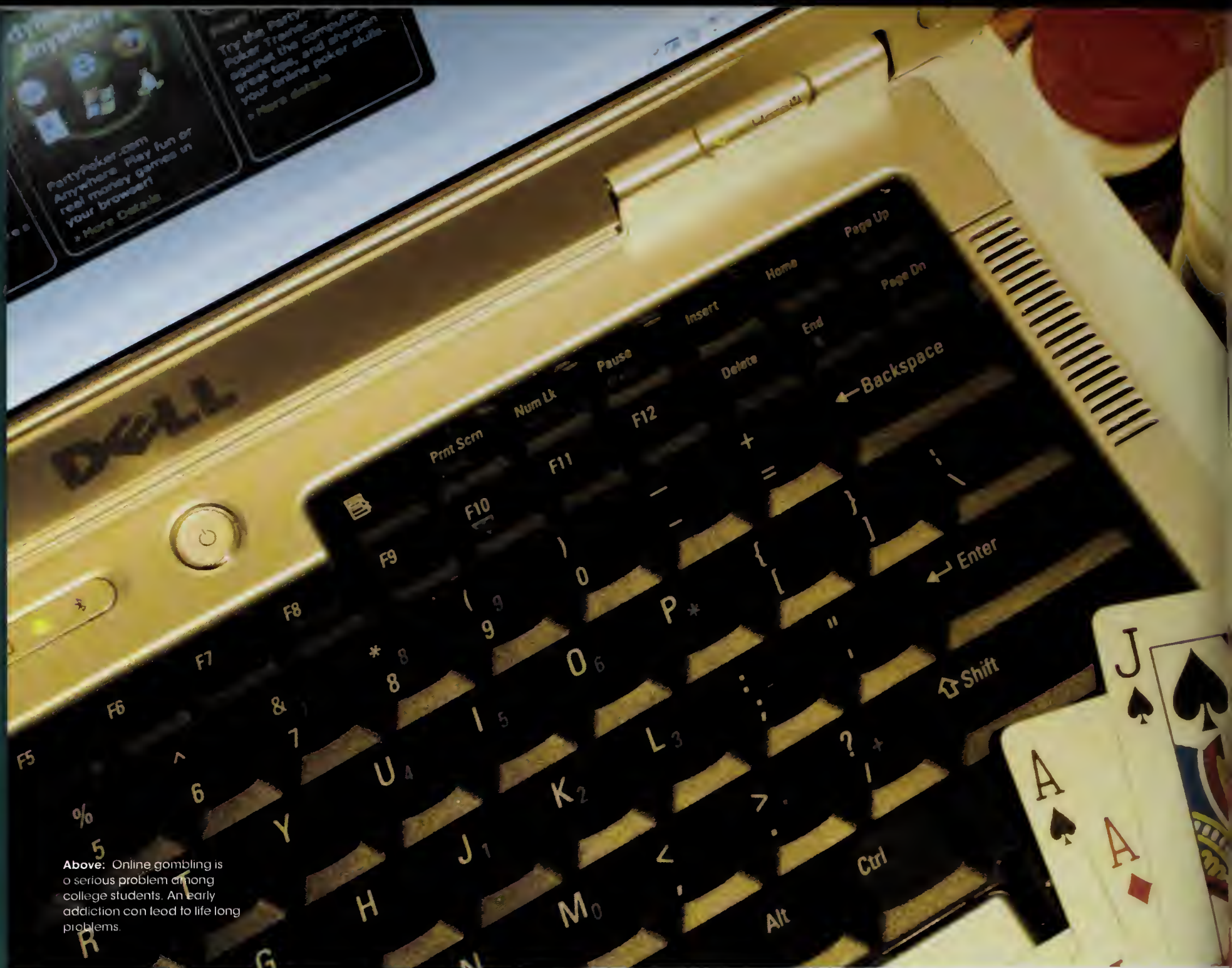
**Opposite:** Kimika Gunji, Director of the Japan House, prepares green tea for her guests.

**Above:** Kimika Gunji serves tea at a Japanese tea ceremony.

**Far left:** A group of U of I students sits quietly at the Japan House, learning the unique process of preparing tea.

**Left:** Bowls used for grinding green tea leaves sit on display at the Japan House.





**Above:** Online gambling is a serious problem among college students. An early addiction can lead to life long problems.

# taking the risk

NEW LAW RESULTS IN REPERCUSSIONS FOR ONLINE GAMBLERS

**W**hether an addict or an occasional online gambler, there is no question students at the University have taken a strong liking to online gambling.

Whether a pastime or an obsession, students such as Michael Brady, a junior in the College of Business, have won some bets and lost some.

Brady has been gambling online since his senior year of high school. He frequents web sites such as Partypoker.com and Pokerstars.com.

"At first I was making money and found it

more entertaining than other means of earning income. And then they started giving me money to play with every couple of months so it was free," Brady said.

Ben Weinberg, a junior in the college of Liberal Arts and Sciences, visits web sites such as Bodog.com, Ultimatebet.com, ParadisePoker.com, and Sportsbook.com. Weinberg comments on the accessibility of it all.

"I'm addicted to gambling in general and if you're not 21, it's perfect," Weinberg said.





Some wonder why this seemingly waste of time and money is so popular on campuses such as this one. For participants, the answer is simple.

"You don't have to gather friends to play or find a place to play. You can sit in your room and play while studying or something. Sometimes you want to play against other people also, not just the same group time in and time out," Brady said.

Oct. 13th proved a sad and frustrating day for online gamblers as President George W. Bush signed a law outlawing online transactions in the United States for gaming sites.

Though Weinberg said he may be addicted to gambling, he doesn't mind the law seeing as he will be able to go to the casinos when he turns 21 in January.

Brady was not too deterred. "I've lost interest in it lately. It's basically just there as a time-filler, something to do when I'm bored," he said.

Whether a pointless hobby or a passionate fixation, online gaming sites will have to seek gamblers elsewhere from now on.

STORY BY **ERIN AQUINO**  
PHOTO BY **ADAM GROTH**

## are you addicted?



An average of 2.7 million college students nationwide support the \$12 billion internet gambling industry every week.

Test your own addiction to online gambling by answering the following questions. The higher your score, the more at risk you are for developing a serious addiction.

- 1 = rarely
- 2 = occasionally
- 3 = frequently
- 4 = often
- 5 = always

1. How often do you find that you stay online longer than you intended?
2. How often do you neglect chores and homework to spend more time gambling online?
3. How often do you form new relationships with fellow online gamblers?
4. How often do your grades or school work suffer because of the amount of time you spend gambling online?
5. How often do you find yourself anticipating when you will be gambling online again?
6. How often do you snap, yell, or act annoyed if someone bothers you while you are gambling online?
7. How often do you lose sleep due to late-night log-ins to your favorite Internet casino?
8. How often do you feel depressed, moody, or nervous when you are off-line, which goes away once you are back to gambling?





**Above:** Morie Grover, freshman in Business, left, and Michelle Li, sophomore in LAS, right, discuss the details of the upcoming show with their staff.

**Far right:** Kerry Doyle, sophomore in Communications, converses with students while she sells tickets.

**Right:** Stor Course member Caitlin Harrington, freshman in LAS, directs concertgoers to their seats.



## seeing stars: a history of shows in champaign

1968

The Beach Boys

1973

Elton John

1974

Grateful Dead

1979

Bruce Springsteen

1982

U2

1989

Def Leppard



# staying on course

CONCERT PROMOTIONAL ORGANIZATION KEEPS CURRENT MUSIC ON CAMPUS

With over one thousand registered student organizations on the University campus, Star Course is one of the few that offers something for music fans. The student-run organization is dedicated to bringing music to Champaign-Urbana, which is already well known for its local music scene.

Star Course was founded in 1896 and has been going strong ever since. The organization has been responsible for presenting bands such as Death Cab for Cutie, Relient K, Spoon, Ben Kweller, Guster, Liz Phair and Mest.

Part of its success is due to the dedication and workmanship of its members. The organization is responsible for advertising, selling tickets, ushering, as well as setting up for and tearing down after all its shows. Emily Dehm, junior in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, was one of the senior managers.

By communicating with various managers to extend offers for show production on campus, she said, "we are the ones who work directly with the venue manager, tour managers and band agencies, and oversee to make sure everything gets done in order for the show to run smoothly."

Dehm said that one of her most important jobs was regulating university funds to keep Star Course running. That included following up shows with settlements and balancing funds."

Working under senior managers in the organization are junior managers, whose committees range from advertising media to hospitality to business administration.

"Junior managers each head up their own committee, which is vital in order to put on a successful show," Dehm said.

Syl Martinez, junior in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, was the junior manager in charge of Stage and Production. "I was respon-

sible for loading and unloading the band's equipment, as well as a lighting and sound company's lights and PA systems." He said. "We also work security during the show."

Many of the shows produced by Star Course were performed in affiliation with Foellinger Auditorium. Working with the Foellinger staff, Star Course was committed to presenting concert-goers with the best experience possible.

"We work with Foellinger most frequently," Dehm said. "This has its advantages in that we both are very used to how the other organization works and are comfortable working with each other."

In order to bring a band to campus, Star Course has to submit offers to the touring managers of the band in question. "The success of the offer depends on details such as when the band is touring, if our venue is open, and so on," Dehm said. "The artists are chosen by popularity, how well we think the campus will respond, requests as to who wants to be seen, as well as who we can afford and who will work well in our venue."

Joining Star Course required a big commitment, but many participants felt the benefits outweighed any frustrations. Interested in using the experience they gained in Star Course in their future careers, both Dehm and Martinez said they put in about seven to ten hours of work a week. Members were involved in many social opportunities outside of concert planning as well as attending most of the shows.

"Going to concerts is something I have loved to do for a while, and this has helped satisfy my curiosity about how things work behind the scenes," Martinez said.

STORY BY **EMILY SCHELL**  
PHOTOS BY **STEVE TWARDOWSKI**

1995

Weezer

1996

Dave Matthews Band

2000

Ben Harper

2002

John Mayer

2003

Wilco

2006

Death Cab for Cutie

RETROSPECTIVE  
Star Course





# the dating game

STUDENTS DEAL WITH THE PRESSURE  
OF COLLEGE RELATIONSHIPS

**m**aking it to class on time is hard enough for the ordinary college student. It only gets worse when, in your desperate attempt to make your lecture on time, you nearly collide into a couple cuddling on the quad. A few steps later, you almost run over two people making out, and you wonder about the status of those affectionate pairs.

Were they dating, in serious relationships, or simply hooking up? This is a question many students asked themselves in search of the definition of "dating" in college.





Jenna Keller, a junior in a relationship with senior Jake Linnell for over a year, said that dating in college was really laid back.

"We both have busy schedules so we just make time for each other when we can," she said. "We don't go on set dates but rather grab lunch between classes or watch a movie. It's basically like hanging out with your best friend all the time."

Upon entering college, many felt pressure from their friends or families to find their future spouse and some tried hard to find someone to date seriously right away.

However Jen Harper, sophomore in Liberal Arts and Sciences, said being single and finding out who you are in your first year or so of college was really important.

"You should have fun and see the person you want to become. Don't worry about the pressure to date," she said. "There is just as much pressure to stay single and hook up. You should do what makes you feel comfortable and not fall into pressure from your peers."

Another popular theme among many students was the long distance relationship. According to the Dating Doctor, David Coleman, who spoke to students at Foellinger, 50 percent of long distance relationships don't make it within the first year and 90 percent fail within four years at college.

Amanda Gomez, sophomore in Liberal Arts and Sciences, has been in a three year, long distance relationship with her boyfriend, who attends the University of Miami.

"Long distance relationships are really hard," she said. "However, if the person you are with is worth the effort, you can make it work with communication and trust."

Another situation that complicated relationships occurred when students found themselves in relationships as graduation approached. They had to ask themselves the question, 'what now?'

What happened to people who were dating after college was over?



Senior Sarah Chapman dealt with this exact problem. She planned on job searching while her boyfriend attended law school.

"If all goes well we will stay together," she said. "That's what I'm hoping."

There were many couples who also considered marriage after graduation. Keller disagreed, saying that "College is about finding your bridesmaids, not your husband."

Many students felt building solid friendships in college that will last a lifetime was more beneficial than focusing too much attention on searching for a soulmate.

STORY BY JESSICA MILLER  
PHOTOS BY LINDSAY OLSON

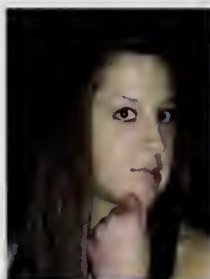
Opposite: Ryan Brummet and Kelly Obbish take a short break from their date on Green St. Top right: Ryan and Kelly sit and chat at Firehouse on 6th and Green. Bottom right: The couple walks down Daniel St. together.

## WHERE'S THE BEST PLACE TO TAKE A DATE IN CHAMPAIGN-URBANA?



The Canopy Club to hear bands.

—Aaron Wicklund  
freshman in LAS



Curtis Orchard.

—Jen Harper  
sophomore in LAS



Bring Your Own Bucket at Beverly Cinema.

—Jenna Keller  
junior in Communications





# campaign for change

STUDENTS WORK TOWARD CAMPUS-WIDE CULTURAL AWARENESS

**b** igot. Ugly. Rude. Stupid. These were all words spray-chalked on to campus sidewalks and on posters all around Champaign as part of the I-Change marketing blitz.

The I-Change Campaign was a student-run initiative that hoped to challenge ignorant and insensitive thoughts and actions; constant concerns among students at the University.

While nearly 30 percent of the student body is comprised of minority groups and the campus is home to four cultural houses, members of I-change and the student body believe that cultural diversity and acceptance are not stressed enough.

A "Tacos and Tequila" themed party, thrown by members of the Zeta Beta Tau Fraternity and Delta Delta Delta Sorority on Oct. 5, brought to the forefront many of the issues which I-Change worked to alter.



The theme party sparked a protest in which students spoke out about racial stereotyping. Alicia Aguirre, a junior in Liberal Arts and Sciences who took part in the protest, said the entire situation angered her.

"I feel like this university tries to sell the idea of diversity to students but in reality, it's not working," Aguirre said. "With events like the (Mexican-themed party), it shows how little this university is actually getting through to students and educating them on cultural diversity."

Aguirre, a Mexican-American student, suggested that a cultural-sensitivity course be added to every student's list of mandatory general education requirements.

"This would not just help race relations on campus, but in almost any career students choose."

Members of I-Change chose to combat issues of diversity differently. Paul Richardson, the creator of the University version of I-Change, said their campaign was intended to shock.

"We knew we weren't the first group to have this message, so our hope was to get people's attention," he said. "If you're walking to class and see the word 'bigot' at your feet, you're probably going to wonder why it's there."

Students such as Molly Rafter, a junior in Liberal Arts and Sciences, said the campaign accomplished its goal.

"The I-Change spray-chalking of words like 'bigot' and 'stupid' were pretty hard to miss when you were walking to class."

The spokesperson for the Delta Delta Delta Sorority, Brittany Bekas, said the sorority is trying to turn its mistake into a positive learning experience.

"Our chapter made a mistake, but we have been doing our best to make things right," she said. "We have created a cultural awareness committee within our chapter and are working with all the Greek councils to promote diversity on campus."

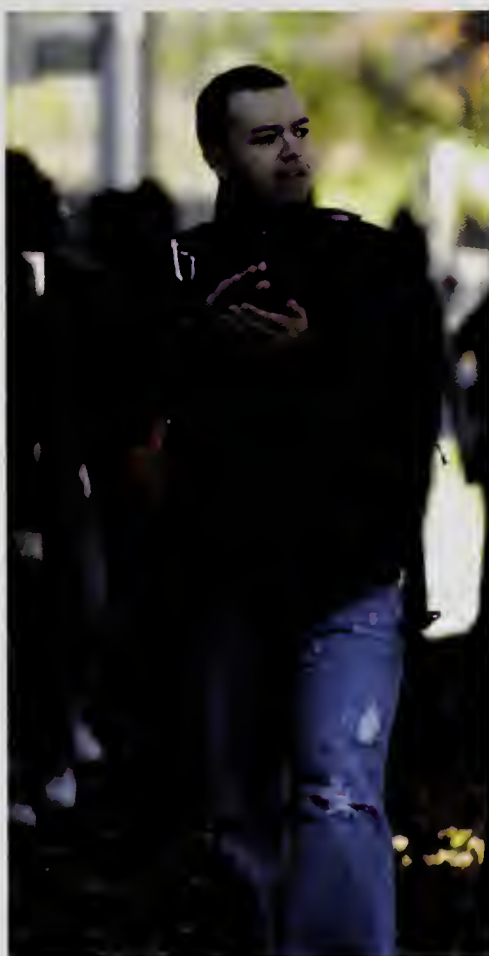
Nathaniel Banks, director of the Bruce D. Nesbitt African-American Cultural Center, said institutional racism could be the real problem.

"It's much larger than just themed parties," he said. "If we're not purposeful in trying to address these common issues of institutional racism, more things like (the theme party) will happen."

Banks said student and staff activism on campus, such as I-Change, is a positive way of responding to instances of cultural insensitivity.

"I think a lot of times students do things that they don't realize are wrong, because no one ever told them otherwise," he said. "I'm encouraged by the fact that the University as a whole is beginning to wonder if there is a better way to educate the student body on cultural awareness."

STORY BY DAVID VALDES  
PHOTOS BY LINDSAY OLSON  
DAN HOLLANDER  
SUZANNE STELMASEK



**Opposite:** Students gather and hold signs up at an anti-racism rally organized by S.T.O.P. (Students Transforming Oppression and Privilege) on the Quad on Oct. 31. The rally, which later moved to protest the ZBT fraternity and Tri-Delt sorority because of their questionably-themed event on Oct. 5, focused on the recent events of racism as indicators of a much larger, systemic problem. Photo by D. Hollander

**Top:** From left, Woshino Ford, sophomore in LAS, Ivone Gutierrez, senior in LAS, and Mindy Vosquez, freshman in LAS, hold signs displaying their feelings on racial discrimination, in response to the Tri-Delt and ZBT exchange called "Tocos and Tequilas" which utilized racial stereotypes for fun. "I'm mod over the fact that they can mock our cultures without knowing anything about it," said Ford. Photo by S. Stelmasek

**Center:** Members of the I-Change campaign hang posters on the Quad. Photo by L. Olson

**Left:** A student involved in the protest against the "Tocos and Tequila" exchange marches down Fourth Street in front of the ZBT house. Photo by S. Stelmasek





# freaks

## if not greeks?

NON-GREEK STUDENTS DEFEND THEIR INDIVIDUALITY

**A** 25 to 75 percent ratio may not seem like a fair battle. However, when referring to Greeks versus non-Greeks at the University of Illinois, the 25 percent of students in the Greek system often appeared as the overpowering group.

Being independent (a term often used to refer to non-Greek students) created a sense of em-

powerment, uniqueness, and most notably, bitterness toward students in fraternities and sororities in the battle between popped-collars and pearls; and dreadlocks and piercings.

Independents often formed harsh perceptions of Greek students because of the sense of arrogance they felt Greek participants portrayed. Steve VanDeKerckhove, a senior in international studies





**Opposite:** Alpha Tau Omega Fraternity members Adam Odam, senior in LAS, left, and, Bob Karpiak, senior in Communications, right, live in a Park Place apartment with non-Greek, fifth-year senior in LAS, Steve VanDeKerckhave, center. The apartment is located on Green St. and has 4 bedrooms with 5 roommates, one non-Greek and four ATOs. The fraternity brothers rarely single Steve out, they say, and he is always included in social events and fun. "We try to keep VanDe in line," said Karpiak when asked about living with a non-Greek student. "We really get along great, but we'd probably accept him more if he was not such a sally on the beer pong table."

who lived in an apartment with three members of the same fraternity said, "I typically had a negative view of the kinds of people who joined [the Greek system]."

Some students joined frats or sororities, then developed opposition to the system and dropped out.

Kristi Bechtol, a senior in Psychology, deactivated from her sorority after actively participating for two years.

"I was spending so much money and it took up so much of my time," she said. "I just didn't see the point in putting myself through that when there were so many more productive things I could be doing with my time."

On a college campus, where there is potential for stereotypes to run rampant, non-Greek stu-

dents often took to mockery to show their dissatisfaction with the Greek system. Popped collars became a bona fide illustration of the typical "frat guy," according to some independents.

Steph Matook, a sophomore in Liberal Arts and Sciences, said that one reason she did not join a sorority was because she thought they placed too much pressure on a specific appearance. "I went through rush and was not impressed by the process," she said. "I felt judged and no one should have to feel like that, so I dropped out."

While many independent students were able to befriend those in the Greek system, there was still a consistent friction between some Greek and non-Greek students.

STORY BY JESSICA RADOGNO  
PHOTO BY LINDSAY OLSON



# weekend with dad

STUDENTS SPEND TIME WITH THEIR FATHERS AT UNIVERSITY-SPONSORED EVENTS

**b**eers and burgers, beards and bald-heads. For some, Dad's Weekend might mean a nice meal without worrying about the bill or drinking some beers and watching a football game, but whatever the activity, it's a time for students to bond with their fathers.

Dad's Weekend 2006 began on Friday Nov. 10 and lasted until Sunday Nov. 12. The annual weekend allowed students to show their fathers a taste of campus life. Many organized activities occurred throughout the weekend for students and their dads to participate in.

On Friday evening, *Buzz* magazine hosted the "Best of Champaign-Urbana" Party at the brand new Illini Media Building located on Green St.

*Buzz* staff member Lauren Aquino, a junior in speech communication, said that the purpose of the party was to celebrate the annual 'Best of C-U' issue, which contained reader-approved Champaign-Urbana favorites in everything from food to fun to fashion.

"It was really great to see students come to the party with their dads," Aquino said. "It was by far the most successful *Buzz* party that Illini Media has ever sponsored."

Special performances included "U-C Hip Hop," "Dance2xS Caliente," "No Strings Attached" and a comedic performance by Mike Coulter.

Aquino said it seemed that both the students and their fathers had a good time.

Many students, including senior in Business Molly Hughes, opted to take their fathers to the football game.

"I made him start the pre-game rituals of drinking at my favorite bar at 8:00 a.m. sharp," Hughes said. "So making it to the game was the least I could do."

Saturday's game against Big Ten team Purdue University marked the last home football game of the season. Illinois played an aggressive first half but could not hold the lead, losing 42-31.

"Although, I really don't enjoy sitting in the cold enduring a loss, I know that it means a lot to



my dad to 'talk football' with me." Hughes said.

Katelyn Lobascio, senior in Education, took her dad to the Men's Glee Club Dad's Weekend Concert. The concert, hosted by the Krannert Art Center, was held at Foellinger Auditorium on Nov. 11.

"The Men's Glee Club performance was excellent," Lobascio said. "The group is incredibly rehearsed. Furthermore, the entire concert was completely entertaining."

Dad's Weekend provided plenty of time for bonding and unique memories. From parties, to sports, to musical venues, the weekend was jam-packed with University-sponsored events.

STORY BY LISA NOE  
PHOTOS BY STEVE TWARDOWSKI  
LINDSAY OLSON





**Opposite:** The empty lot on the west side of Memorial Stadium serves as tailgating grounds for students and their dads. Photo by S. Twardawski

**Above:** Tim Walfe, a dad from the U of I class of 1988, Ryan Anderson, senior in ACES, Tim Patrick, senior in ACES, Brian Blyth and Luke Shulin, both students from Purdue, and Harry Patrick, Illinois graduate from 1974, hang out before the Illinois v. Purdue game. Photo by S. Twardawski

**Far left:** Jim Kagut, a former U of I student and football player, enjoys a tailgate celebration with daughter Jacquelin Kagut, freshman in AHS. Each home game, Jim puts on a tailgate for his two daughters that attend the university and anyone else who happens to walk by. Photo by L. Olson

**Left:** Jenny Kagut, junior in LAS, macks a nearby dad, Vern Olson, by stealing his fake Oakley sunglasses and wearing them for the duration of the Dad's Weekend tailgate. Photo by L. Olson



# what to wear

CLOTHING BOUTIQUES ON CAMPUS SET THE FASHION STANDARD

**C**hristine Janda, junior in Communications, goes to her closet and comes back empty-handed. "I have nothing to wear out tonight," she says. Janda does not have a car on campus and therefore does not have access to clothing retailers. Trying to find a trendy outfit last minute was a challenge, until recently, she said.

Two new clothing stores, Pitaya and Exhibit, opened on campus. Both stores provided students with fashionable clothing, within walking distance.

"Having a store like this on campus is great for girls without cars or for girls who don't have time to make a trip to the mall," said Amber Bain, sophomore in Education and Exhibit employee. Nestled on the second floor of the College Corner Center on Green St., Exhibit offers students a wide selection of clothing choices. The boutique carries everything from Ed Hardy t-shirts to Hot Kiss jeans to Mi&Ren dresses.

Bain credited the diverse selection to owner Heather Ronkoske, an alumni of the University. She said Ronkoske orders styles and vendors that appeal to her.

"(Ronkoske) has styled for celebrities and T.V. shows," Bain said. "She knows how to pick out really unique items."

Bain said the most popular items are dresses, jewelry, and "going-out" tops.

"We get a lot of girls in here looking for dresses to wear to last minute events," she said.

Shoppers can spend \$36 to \$100 on a dress depending on the designer. Bain said that although some of the items can be expensive, Exhibit does offer items that fit into a college student's budget.



Amanda Heckinger, junior in Business and employee at Pitaya, located on Green St., said that like Exhibit, Pitaya has a large selection of merchandise that changes from week-to-week.

"The girls that shop here typically have a sense of style," Heckinger said. "They know they can come in here on a regular basis and find something fresh."

Lindsey Kordik, junior in Communications and self-proclaimed fashionista, said she enjoys shopping at Pitaya because of the variety.

"They really have a little bit of everything – no matter what look you are looking for you can find it there," Kordik said.

Some popular items include tunic shirts, leggings, and headbands, Heckinger said.

Kordik said while the new stores are convenient, they are bad for her bank account.

"I have a shopping problem as it is," Kordik said. "Now I can go to class, shop, grab dinner, shop..."

STORY BY **BRITTANY BEKAS**  
PHOTOS BY **ALISA AUGELLO**

## fall fashion favorites



### Leggings

This 80's essential has made a comeback and is being worn under dresses, big sweaters and long tees.

### Headbands

This hair accessory that comes in a variety of shapes and sizes is great for running to class or hitting up the bars.

### Skinny Jeans

Toss these on with a pair of ballet flats during the day and then switch into a pair of pumps for the night.



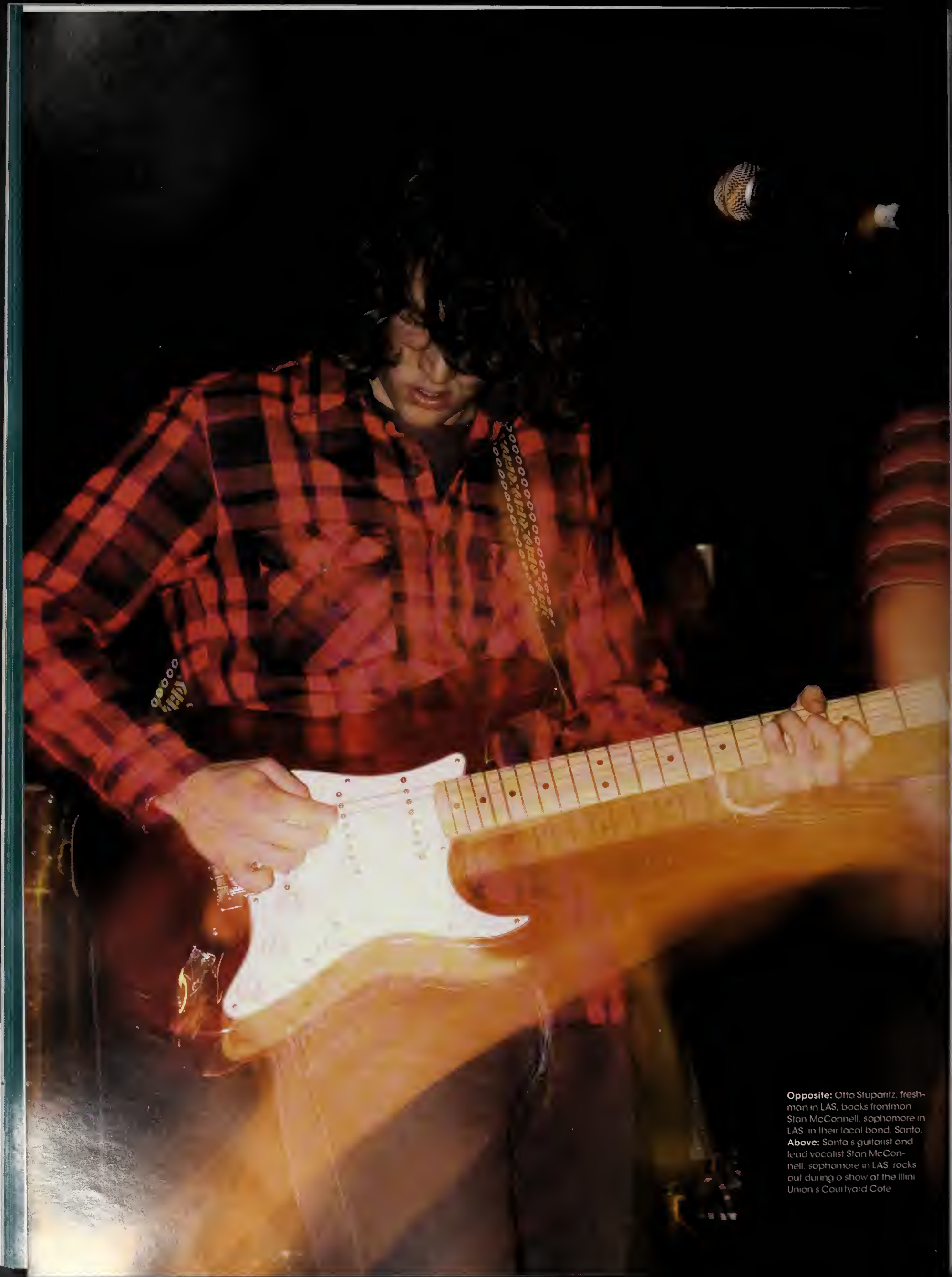


**Opposite** Kelsey Lofstrand, senior in Business, Emily Widmer, senior in LAS, Jule Mammoser, senior in Communications, peruse the racks in Pitoyo, located on Green St.  
**Below:** Maryann Arsenijevic and Sarah Becker, both seniors in Education, shop for new holiday party dresses.

**Waist Belts**  
The waist is back. This accessory dresses up any boring t-shirt or dress.

**Wrap Dresses**  
A dress for any age level that looks great over jeans, leggings or tights.





**Opposite:** Otto Stupartz, freshman in LAS, books frontman Stan McConnell, sophomore in LAS, in their local band, Santo. **Above:** Santo's guitarist and lead vocalist Stan McConnell, sophomore in LAS, rocks out during a show at the Illini Union's Courtyard Cafe.



# rock in our region

LOCAL BAND PLAYS C-U, STRIVING FOR NATIONAL FAME AND FORTUNE



It wasn't long ago that an almost unheard of student band from the University of Illinois became a nationwide, popular rock band. The band was REO Speedwagon. And it may not be much longer until another student band follows in their footsteps. "Santa" is a group of five students who, though they have not been together for even a year, have already enjoyed numerous successes.

In February of 2006, Stanton McConnell, sophomore in Liberal Arts and Sciences (LAS) and also guitarist and vocalist for Santa, along with his cousin Mack McConnell, also sophomore in LAS and fellow guitarist, gathered some of their musically inclined friends to form the band now known as Santa.

The roles of bassist, vocals, drums, keyboard and auxiliary percussion were ultimately filled by Martin O'Donnell, sophomore in LAS, Chad Warner, junior in LAS, Zak Kunath, sophomore in LAS, and Otto Stuparitz, freshman in LAS.

Perhaps one of the most unusual aspects of the band's formation was their decision on a name. Incidentally, the name was jokingly decided upon by the McConnell cousins over a casual cup of tea.

"At first we laughed, but then we found it provocative," Stan McConnell said. "It's memorable

and kind of mysterious, and who has dared tackle the cultural impact that Santa has other than the man himself?"

One of the most unique aspects of the band is the very genre that they fit into – or more accurately, the many genres that they do not fit into.

"It's really hard to pinpoint influences, because so many of us have such different musical tastes," percussionist Zak Kunath said. "We are a big conglomerate of genres and styles that we individually like."

Specific influences range from Radiohead to Bob Dylan, Of Montreal to Phish.

Members of Santa spent much of the 2006-2007 school year experimenting with their sound at frequent, two-hour practice sessions. Their devotion to creating music paid off as they were given the opportunity to play at various local venues, produce an album, and be featured on Illini Media's student radio station, WPGU.

Above all of their successes however, perhaps the most rewarding, was their opportunity to go on tour. The tour, aside from providing the band with a real taste of life on the road, included playing shows in Chicago, St. Louis and Arkansas.

"We partied everywhere from gated communities to lonesome country bars and it was incredible," Mack McConnell said.

However, as with any other band on the rise, Santa was forced to deal with a few difficulties that accompanied life in the musical spotlight.

Drummer Martin O'Donnell said that "negotiating six people's desires, musical and otherwise, has probably been the most difficult thing."

As the band nears their one-year anniversary, they concluded that life as a musician has been nothing other than a rollercoaster ride. In years to come, Santa plans on staying together and pursuing their goal of creating new and enjoyable sounds for a consistently growing group of fans.

Stan McConnell said, "We want to travel the world and make people cry, the good tears, the whole bittersweet-life-tears that only music can bring."

STORY BY JESSICA RADOGNO  
PHOTOS BY STEVE TWARDOWSKI





# see your soldier

## VIDEOCONFERENCING CONNECTS SOLDIERS IN IRAQ WITH THEIR FAMILIES ON CAMPUS

**C**hristmas came early for Jeremy Cavinder, Army Rank Specialist, 1st Cavalry, who was stationed at Camp Taji.

Participating in the University-hosted event "See Your Soldier," held on Dec. 5 and Dec. 6, Cavinder was able to see and speak to his family for approximately 30 minutes via videoconferencing.

There wasn't a dry eye in the room when Cavinder's young son, Noah, stood up and said, "Daddy, I want to say something—you're my hero."

The sobs were audible from both the family in the conferencing room and from the satellite feed of Jeremy.

He replied, "It means so much to us over here that you all still care. Sometimes we feel like people back home don't even care anymore.

"You remember those good times, baby," he said directly to his son. "Because we're going to have a lot more when I get home. I promised you I'd come home. I will."

Approximately 50 soldiers stationed at two





camps were able to connect with about 340 family members around Illinois. The video-conferencing sessions were held at the National Center for Supercomputing Applications on the Urbana-Champaign campus, as well as 12 extension sites throughout the state. It is offered to families at no cost.

This is the third time that the University has arranged real-time meetings between deployed soldiers and their families, a program they call "See Your Soldier."

Scheduling and equipment overseas was coordinated with Freedom Calls, a New York-based foundation that helps soldiers all over the nation reunite with their families live via satellite.

"It was extremely difficult to coordinate," said Nancy Kasselbaum, a "See Your Soldier" coordinator. "The program took about six weeks to organize, but families are always elated to be able to see their loved ones."

Cavinder's family said that the best part of this was that they could see that he was safe, healthy, and in one piece.

Through tears and sniffles, his family had 30 minutes to ask him questions about how his time overseas has been, ask if he needed anything, and to catch him up with life in their hometown of Shelbyville. Cavinder was unable to comment on his personal view of the war or specific locations of military personnel.

"It's the greatest Christmas present I could ever ask for," Cavinder said.

The year 2006 has been a tumultuous one in regard to progress in Iraq. Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld was fired and succeeded by Robert Gates, who hopes that President Bush will listen to his new strategies on forging a war plan.

"In my view, all options are on the table, in terms of how we address this problem in Iraq," he told the Senate Armed Services Committee, who approved him by a wide margin after five hours of testimony on Dec. 5.

The U.S. death toll has surpassed 2,900 in the four years that troops have been overseas, and no timetable has been set to remove them. The Pentagon, the State Department, and the National Security Council all have separate studies about how to focus war efforts in the future, but in the end it is President Bush's decision on how to proceed.

STORY BY **JEN BRANDT**  
PHOTOS BY **LINDSAY OLSON**



**Opposite:** Jeremy Cavinder, a soldier stationed at Camp Toji in Iraq, talks with his wife and son via videoconference at the National Center for Supercomputing Applications (NCSA).  
**Left:** Cavinder's entire extended family traveled from Shelbyville to participate in the "See Your Soldier" program.  
**Right:** Amanda Cavinder experiences an emotional moment seeing husband Jeremy onscreen. "You're my hero," son Naah told him.

RETROSPECTIVE  
see your soldier



# together with pride

STUDENTS FIND SUPPORT, FORM SOCIAL CIRCLES IN LGBT GROUPS

One of the benefits of a large campus population is the diversity of the student body. The University is home to a lively lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) community and offers a variety of LGBT student organizations, three of which are PRIDE, Colors of PRIDE, and "L-Cubed," or Ladies Loving Ladies.

One of the things Liz Wagner, current president of Ladies Loving Ladies, considered during her college search was the presence of LGBT groups on campuses. As a closeted high school student, Liz felt like an outsider. For college, she sought a place which would allow her to be herself. In her words, Ladies Loving Ladies "provides a place for queer women to go."

PRIDE, perhaps the largest LGBT organization on campus, is also the most active and most public group. While equally concerned with building community, PRIDE also works "to keep gay issues towards the forefront of campus," said PRIDE executive officer William Blanchard.

One of the ways PRIDE accomplishes a political agenda is with campus-wide events that draw attention to the oppression of LGBT people. PRIDE organizes 'Day of Silence' in the spring, during which participating members dress in black and decline to speak for the day.

This action "symbolizes the silence all LGBT people feel," said Blanchard. PRIDE also sponsors events for National Coming Out Day, Transgender Day of Remembrance, and volunteers members for panel discussions in Human Sexuality class sections, as well as holding social events.

Colors of PRIDE, a group specifically geared towards LGBT students of color, also organizes activities which encourage awareness and discussion of LGBT issues, such as movie showings and lectures, a guerrilla theatre on the quad, and a Drag Ball at the Illini Union. Ladies Loving Ladies is a primarily social group, organizing outings to movies, Curtis Apple Orchard, C-street bar, and the PRIDE parade in Chicago.

While there is a solid LGBT community at the University, many groups feel the campus community could still improve their levels of acceptance. Each organization acknowledges that it faces difficulties, with membership, diversity of membership, and participation of allies.



President of PRIDE Ryan Livingston seeks to convince potential allies that "this is a cause worth their time," and that "the denial of one person's civil liberties does affect yours."

Wagner said a major difficulty is in encouraging people who haven't come out yet to join the organization.

Ryan agrees, saying, "I thought there'd be more gay people here. Going by statistics, there should be 4,000 gay students (10% of the population). This campus is a closeted one."

Blanchard said the under-representation of minorities in PRIDE mimics the under-representation of minorities on campus in general. "This campus is not very diverse when it comes down to it."

Wagner said that the campus climate is a bit less intimidating for women than men to come out. "It's easier for queer women to blend in with straight women because straight women are less threatened."

Despite these challenges, LGBT organizations agree that while the campus may not be diverse, it is receptive. "Change is achievable. This is a place where we can make a difference," Livingston said. William agreed, saying that "Most students are willing to listen."

Khristian Kemp-DeLisser, of Colors of PRIDE, notes that "despite its challenges, Colors of PRIDE is a valuable group to have on this campus. Students and staff will always be committed to its success. We don't expect it to go away."

STORY BY CAMILLE BROMLEY  
PHOTO BY BRAD VEST





**Opposite:** LGBT members on a field trip to Clinch Lake over the summer. Pictured is Flavie Garcia, graduate student in Engineering, Alex Orozco, junior in LAS, Angie Ibrahim, University alumna, Bridget Geraghty, senior in LAS, Lydi Majure, doctoral student in Engineering, Meryl Erika Deles, University alumna, Joyo Kuechler, graduate student in FAA, Liz Wagner, senior in LAS, and Danielle Wyncott, graduate student in Business. Photo courtesy of L. Wagner

**Above:** From left, James Kurisunkal, freshman in LAS and Liz Wagner, senior in LAS, greet a crowd of supporters for National Coming Out Day on the quad. Photo by B. Vest





# no ifs, ands, or butts

SMOKERS, NON-SMOKERS ALIKE  
ADJUST TO BAN ON TOBACCO

With the bitter turn of the weather in early February and the installation of the Champaign Clean Indoor Air Ordinance on Jan. 31, smokers will have an extra chill as they step outside for a smoke.

On May 16, 2006, the Champaign City Council passed the ordinance with a 5-4 majority prohibiting smoking in enclosed public places. Similarly, Urbana implemented the same policy on Aug. 1 last year, and it was enforced as of Jan. 1, 2007.



**Left:** Tyler Walker, of Champaign, smokes, reads and drinks at the Blind Pig Pub. In regards to the smoking ban, Walker commented, "As a smoker I just choose to accept it. It's the law."

**Right:** James Williams, resident of Champaign, hangs out at the Blind Pig, now a smoke-free establishment.

The ordinance required bars and restaurants to place conspicuous "no smoking" signs at or near the entrance and also requires them to remove any smoking paraphernalia such as ash trays, according to the City of Champaign Web site. If the owners of these public places fail to follow these rules, they can be charged a minimum of \$195. If an individual is caught smoking, they can be charged a minimum of \$145.

Ashley Richard, junior in education, thought the smoking ban is a positive change to the Champaign-Urbana night life.

"It's a great thing," Richard said. "I hate going to the bars and smelling bad afterward. I love the ban."

Yet many of the smokers in Champaign and Urbana don't share Richard's sentiment, as some of the on-campus bars don't have beer gardens. This makes it challenging for smokers to get back in.

"I go to bars only if there's a beer garden where I don't have to get back in line to re-enter," said Andrew Krok, junior in LAS.

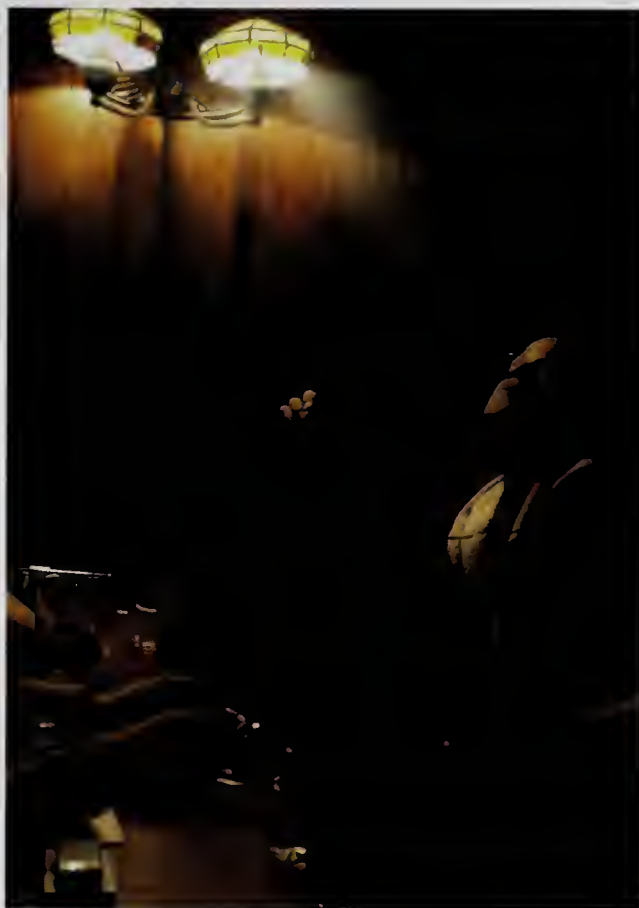
Krok agreed, however, that not smoking might be the healthier, safer choice, yet he still doesn't agree with the ban.

"I can go out for a night, and while not smoking might be hard, it's probably better for me in the long run," he said. "But it's no wonder why bars are losing money, making people wait in line."

Freshman in the college of agriculture Alake Kashyap was also concerned with the health aspect of smoking in public places.

"Second-hand smoke is becoming a more relevant issue in the current world," Kashyap said. "It's relevant to everyone...who likes to sing and drink with people whose breath smells like smoke, anyway?"

While the smoking ban is a positive for some non-smokers and health-conscious people, Eric



Vacco, sophomore in LAS, knew what to expect from a bar and understands the former bar atmosphere.

"It's structured around drinking and smoking ... a bar is a bar," Vacco said. "But if I had to pick, smoking is bad and it should be banned because it does more harm than good."

Although the ban was recently put into effect, city officials do not foresee the ban as causing too many problems, as most establishments are complying. However, if there is a problem that needs to be reported, a smoking complaint form can be submitted online at the C-U Public Health Department's Web site.

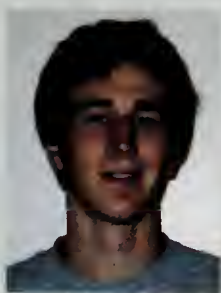
STORY BY **DANIELLE URBAN**  
PHOTOS BY **AMELIA MOORE**

## how do you feel about the champaign smoking ban?



I love it. When I wake up and my hair is in my face I don't feel like barfing and jumping off the balcony.

—Steph Matook  
sophomore in LAS



I don't smoke. I hate smoke but I don't necessarily think it should be banned in bars. Definitely in restaurants because there is food being served but I feel like its expected in terms of standards at bars.

—Brian Bush  
junior in Engineering



It's seriously God's gift to me. Also a lot of my friends are trying to quit smoking and this is actually very helpful to them.

—Sarah De Runtz  
senior in LAS





# power and privilege

UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATORS PARTICIPATE IN PANEL DISCUSSION AT STUDENT FORUM TO ADDRESS RACISM AND HOSTILITY ON CAMPUS

A line of six panelists faced a packed Foellinger Auditorium of students and community members asking hardball questions, addressing the "hostile campus climate," and the "long history of racism, privilege and intolerance at the University."

Events such as the "Tacos and Tequila" party and certain Facebook groups were the catalyst for an open forum titled, "Racism, Power and Privilege at UIUC." It was hosted by Students Transforming Oppression and Privilege (STOP) Feb. 1, 2007, to engage the campus and community in an open discussion about "the racist and hostile en-

vironment" at the University, according to STOP's press release.

The panelists for the forum were President B. Joseph White, Chancellor Richard Herman, Vice Chancellor Renee Romano, Provost Linda Katehi, Dean of Students William Riley and Vernon Burton, faculty senate member. The panel was given a list of seven demands, which can be found in length on the iResist Web site, and an ultimatum to respond within 15 business days with a concrete course of action. Celina Villanueva, senior in LAS and president of the Mexican Students Association, was the first to "break the imposed code of





silence." She "stood unafraid" behind the podium addressing the "Tacos and Tequila" incident and speaking against the "blatant form of racism that is the Chief" to thunderous applause. The administration's failure to respond in a prompt and efficient manner, Villanueva said, condoned the acts of participants in "Tacos and Tequila."

Shawn Lampkins-uThando, graduate student and spokesman for STOP, illustrated why they believe the Chief is racist.

"Imagine that you're a Catholic," he said. "And to you, the pope is a sacred figure. One day you go to this institution and at halftime, you see him running around sprinkling holy water on the crowd."

One male University student, wearing a bright orange Illinois shirt and a blue Illinois hat, was a lone pro-Chief voice in the auditorium who spoke up to the crowd's boos and jeers mixed with scattered clapping.

"The lack of individuals speaking different view points in the forum was reflective of the fact that (those who are not present) did not acknowl-

edge the critical barrier of racism, privilege, and power as the root cause of this hostile campus climate," said Reem Rahman, junior in LAS.

The first question to White regarded his plans to change the use of Chief Illiniwek. His reply of appreciation for the forum was cut short by an "answer the question!" from the audience. White declined to comment on what the Board of Trustees planned to resolve in 2007.

The audience expressed concerns regarding the lack of diversity on the panel.

"I'm not going to speak to why I'm white," Romano said after White and Herman spoke. "But I want to say that white people can be as dedicated to the issues of inclusion as anyone in this room."

Romano agreed with STOP that silence is the worst thing and there needs to be more dialogue in the future, while White endured more than a few interruptions and jeers from the audience.

"I have a great desire for everybody on this campus to feel safe and be treated with respect and dignity," he said.

STORY BY **CHRISTINE WON**  
PHOTO BY **BRAD VEST**

**Above:** The six-member Race, Power, and Privilege Forum panel listens and responds as students and community members address their concerns with the state of racism on campus. Foellinger and Gregory Holl were filled to capacity, and many other people were turned away to watch the forum either at the Illini Union or on the Internet.





# breaking the streak

CHICAGO BEARS PLAY IN THE SUPER BOWL FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE 1986

Here comes a special time every February when the attention of millions across the nation is drawn to the nearest television set for hours. For most, the festivities involved are a culmination of an entire season of gut-wrenching losses, highlight reel performances, and unforgettable victories. Others are enticed to participate simply by the enormity of the occasion or the overly expensive commercials.

Recently, the event occupied an important place in the hearts of the Chicago faithful. This was no ordinary Super Bowl for them, as their beloved Chicago Bears were making their first trip to the big game since 1986.

Though the final outcome, 29-17, was not what most fans had in mind, a Bears Super Bowl appearance was enough to make the game a special experience. Pete Otremba, sophomore in engineering, said he was disappointed over the heart-breaking loss, but could not forget the feeling of watching the Bears compete for a championship.

"It was great having a home team in the game trying to win it for Chicago," Otremba said. "It wasn't as good a game as I had hoped, but watching it at school with my friends was definitely different from my experiences in the past."

The campus was rippling with excitement in the weeks leading up to the game, as students and



faculty alike got caught up in the aura of Super Bowl Sunday. Joe O'Malley, sophomore in LAS, testified to the all-inclusive nature of this enthusiastic atmosphere.

"Everyone was really getting into it," said O'Malley. "Between teachers putting off assignments and talking about the game in lecture, you could feel the excitement and energy building on campus."

After years of futility and early playoff exits, the Bears were finally able to formulate a Super Bowl caliber team, officially marking the beginning of a new era of football in Chicago. This seemed the only means of consolation for mourning Bears fans across campus.

"The game showed that Chicago's presence in the sports world is expanding," Otremba said. "With the White Sox winning the World Series two years ago, and the Bears reaching the Super Bowl this year, it definitely means that Chicago is coming back into its own in the sports world."

As for the Bears' chances of reaching the big game next February, Otremba did not hesitate to offer his prediction.

"There's no doubt in my mind that they're winning it all next year," Otremba said. "I'm 100 percent positive."

Only time will tell whether this year's heroics will be repeated, but one thing is for certain: Champaign will be ready and waiting to catch Bears fever once again.

STORY BY **JIM SHAY**  
PHOTOS BY **JOSH BIRNBAUM**  
**THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**



**Opposite:** Chicago Bears' Devin Hester (23) runs back the opening kick-off for a touch-down during the first quarter of the Super Bowl XLI football game against the Indianapolis Colts. Photo courtesy of The Associated Press

**Above:** Chicago Bears quarterback Rex Grossman (8) stumbles after recovering a fumble against the Indianapolis Colts. Photo courtesy of The Associated Press

**Left:** After watching the Chicago Bears' 29-17 loss to the Indianapolis Colts in Super Bowl XLI, Mike Hollahan, right, and Dove Burchfield, left, both freshmen in LAS, comfort each other at KAMS in Champaign on Sunday evening. Photo by J. Birnbaum





# time well served

ROTC MEMBERS TRAIN FOR SERVICE, EARN AN EDUCATION

On any given Thursday, any student at the University can take a walk through Campus, cross the quad between classes, and catch a glimpse of an army fatigue rounding the corner of the Union, or disappearing up the steps and through the doors of Foellinger Auditorium. Most will notice the black shoulder bag with at least the letters "ROTC" embroidered on the flap, carefully placed under a chair or on top of a desk. Their backs straight, these members

of ROTC—the Reserve Officer Training Corps—sit through class with a sense of pride in their stance that may or may not be visible in the average student. While they may walk to class with this same sense of confidence every day, the ROTC member will stand out on Thursdays, because the Military Education Council has designated this as the day when they will wear their uniforms all day, demonstrating the pride they hold for their organization and their country.



The joint ROTC program of Parkland College and the University of Illinois has divisions in both the U.S. Marines and the U.S. Navy, with students who are enlisted as active duty and those who are not. According to MIDN Isaiah Stokes, how long you serve depends on what field you go into.

"There are minimum terms of service," he said. "They depend on whether you want to go the aviation route, or other route, you know."

First class midshipman and senior at the University Julie Vogt always wanted to be in the military, and decided that the ROTC program was the best option that involved an education. Vogt wanted to serve her country, and ROTC let her do that while serving her personal interests in an education as well.

"I have changed a lot, and definitely for the better," she said.

Coming from a family of military careers, fourth class midshipman Justin Meyers knew all along he would end up in the field, choosing aviation in the ROTC program at the University to help him get there.

"If you want to make the Navy your career, it can be the rest of your life," he said. "It will help me get a job after that too, since any airline will see 'naval aviator' on a resume and probably hire immediately."

Meyers and Vogt differ from fellow ROTC member Robert Schronski however, as they entered the ROTC program right out of school, while Schronski chose to enlist prior to his entrance in the program. He is a member of the Marines as well as a freshman at the University.

"We're locked in for careers, and the marines are still paying us, so they want us out of here as quick as possible," Schronski said.

Feeling a personal urgency to get his education and get out in his field, Schronski will take summer classes, speeding up the process toward graduation.

ROTC students do not receive any special treatment from the University, whether that be in regards to registration or graduation requirements. On top of the usual things required to graduate, ROTC students must also maintain a 2.5 GPA and take the necessary classes required by the military, which range from military history to weaponry to leadership classes.

"It's more of a load on us; more standards," MIDN Stokes said. "But the lessons learned here serve you well, and the life techniques we train in here can be carried with you."

STORY BY **DENI STITCH**  
PHOTOS BY **BECK DIEFENBACH**



**Opposite:** Members of the Army ROTC work out as a group during 5:30 a.m. physical training. Unless superiors feel they need extra work, members are required to complete P.T. two mornings a week.

**Top:** ROTC members group stretch in the Army.

**Center:** ROTC members (Left) Joseph Ferguson, left, and James Simmons, both juniors in LAS, stretch before training exercises in the Army.

**Left:** A group of Army midshipmen run sprints before classes begin.





# coming back with courage

ERICA VAN ZUIDAM RETURNS TO CAMPUS  
AFTER BATTLE WITH BACTERIAL MENINGITIS

Erica Van Zuidam had never even heard of bacterial meningitis before May 2005 when she was rushed to the hospital with severe flu-like symptoms. She would remain there for nearly the entire summer, in a coma for seven weeks and recovering from surgeries the rest of the time. The disease would eventually claim both legs, just below the knee, and both arms, just below the wrist.

After a year off of school for intense rehab and recovery, Van Zuidam has returned to the university. She has switched her major from math to kinesiology and hopes to be an occupational therapist where she will work with other amputees.

"My physical therapist was fantastic, but it was so frustrating to have her try to teach me to use my prosthetics when she had her hands still," she said. "She could never really understand what I

was going through. I want to show others first-hand and help them get through the therapy that I've already done."

Bacterial meningitis is an infection of the spinal cord, brain stem and brain. It infects approximately 3,000 people in American annually, and has a fatality rate of 10-12 percent. About 20 percent of survivors will have some permanent physical damage as a result of the disease, including amputations, hearing loss, kidney disease, or difficulty speaking.

Adolescents and young adults account for nearly 30 percent of cases, and college freshmen are particularly susceptible. In fact, recent data also show students living in dormitories, particularly freshmen, have a six fold increased risk for the disease. Crowded living conditions (such as dormitories), irregular sleep patterns, sharing





Above: Erica Moss Zuidam, a junior in ACES, returned to the University after a year in physical therapy learning to use her prosthetic hands and feet. About her fellow students she says, "I used to get mad when people stared, but they're probably just wondering what happened."

beverages and utensils, and attending school with people from geographically diverse areas all account for a higher percentage among college students.

However, there is a vaccine for meningococcal disease that could prevent up to 83 percent of all cases in adolescents yearly. It is offered at U of I but not required for admission. Students can pay \$30 to receive the vaccine at the campus health clinic.

"I didn't know about the vaccine," said Van Zuidam. "I'd never even heard of bacterial meningitis before this. I was mad when I knew it could have been prevented."

She tries to make people aware of the vaccine now that she is back on campus. She stopped a tour group of high school seniors on the quad a few months ago.

"Don't even chance it," she told them.

Bacterial meningitis is an extremely fast-moving disease; patients go from feeling flu symptoms to full organ failure in just a few hours. Van Zuidam's experience was no different. Doctors took her case literally minute-by-minute; the medical staff didn't leave her side for the first 26 hours.

Amazingly, Van Zuidam says she never felt much self-pity about getting the disease or her amputations.

"I wanted to just move on," she said. "I wanted to get out of the hospital."

It was difficult for her to get used to all of her prostheses, especially right after the surgeries when the wounds were still sore. However, she worked tirelessly at daily tasks such as holding a toothbrush to brush her teeth and putting on makeup alone.

"It was so frustrating at first, because I had never thought twice about those things before," she says. "It was rewarding to be back to where I was before my prostheses."

One of the few things she still has trouble with is pulling her hair back into a ponytail.

"Most people with prosthetic arms have to cut their hair short," Erica says. "But I don't care what I have to do, these things are absolutely not going to make me cut my hair."

Now back at school a year later, Van Zuidam lives in private housing in an ADA-approved room with two roommates, twins Megan and Emily Bateman. Everything has been customized to fit her needs, such as levers on all doors and sinks instead of knobs, lowered light switches, a raised toilet seat because, in her own words, "ya don't got ankles."

The Bateman sisters are more than happy to step in when she needs help.

"In a living situation like this, you need someone who wants to help," Van Zuidam said. "We really lucked out."

"Yeah, we lucked out that you put up with us," joked Megan.

Van Zuidam recalled a time when her normally laid-back demeanor was pushed to the limit at a party this year.

"Some girl came up to me, grabbed my arm prosthetic, and said, 'Oh aren't you cute!'" said Van Zuidam with more than a hint of disdain. "I wanted to clobber her, and tell her exactly where my hook is going if she doesn't shut up."

"Just make me feel normal, that's all I ask."

She sat quietly for a moment, staring down at her prostheses.

"I have my bad days," she said calmly, looking back up. "Everyone will. But you can't dwell on it—you'll make yourself nuts with unanswered questions."

"Let it be as it is. Just go with it."

STORY BY JEN BRANDT  
PHOTOS BY BLAKE MILLER





# president in east peoria

BUSH PRAISES CATERPILLAR FOR REPRESENTING  
'PIONEERING SPIRIT' OF UNITED STATES

f lanked by a pair of bulldozers, President George W. Bush spoke to a hand-picked group of workers, whose diversity showed in the spattering of suits among hard hats and safety glasses. Some stood on top of various pieces of heavy equipment in order to get a better view of the president.

On Tuesday, Jan. 30, the eve of his State of the Economy address in New York City, President Bush chose to speak to Caterpillar Inc. in East Peoria. He said the company exemplifies the American pioneering spirit, able to expand worldwide while keeping jobs back home.



**Opposite & Below:**  
President Bush speaks at  
the SS Caterpillar building in  
Peoria, discussing topics like  
increasing exports through the  
free trade policy to the state of  
healthcare in the United States.



Bush said he was "impressed by a culture of excellence and accomplishment that is the spirit of Caterpillar."

Prior to his speech, the president toured the facility and drove a bulldozer. Jim Owens, CEO of Caterpillar, said he commended the president for bringing the country into its greatest period of economic growth since World War II.

"I wanted to get out of Washington and sit down with folks that are the backbone of this country. And I want to come to one of America's great companies, and that's Caterpillar," Bush said.

Bush, standing under a banner that read, "Working for America," said he was glad to be in America's heartland with a company that reflects the American enterprising spirit.

The American economy is strong because inflation, interest rates and national unemployment are down, while wages are on the increase, Bush said.

"The question facing the country is, 'what are we going to do to make sure it's strong tomorrow?'" Bush said.

The president reiterated a point he made during his Jan. 23 State of the Union address, stating that what America needs is "not more government, but more enterprise."

"Our job in government is not to get in your way," Bush said, "Our job in government is to put pro-growth economic policies in place that (allow) companies like Caterpillar that do the right thing to succeed."

Roy Prokesh, quality inspector at Caterpillar, said that he is pleased with Cat's initiative in global development.

"Caterpillar takes care of us," said Prokesh. The tractor business is bound to boom, he added, due to the need of developing nations for building equipment, such as the bulldozers and tractors Caterpillar manufactures.

Bush said promoting free trade agreements is key to generating further revenue in America. The more a country exports, more workers are needed to build products, creating more jobs, he added. America holds five percent of the world population, and so we ought to market to the other 95 percent of the world, Bush said.

He said that he wants to ensure a level playing field, adding that America has pursued bilateral, regional, and world trade agreements.

"On a level playing field, nobody can compete with us," he added.

"It's a once in a lifetime experience; it's not every day that you get to see the president of the United States," said Ronald Gamble, Caterpillar team member for over ten years.

STORY BY **DRAKE BAER**  
PHOTOS BY **BRAD VEST**





# snow for two days

UNIVERSITY CANCELS CLASS FOR THE  
FIRST TIME IN TWENTY-EIGHT YEARS

Using lunch trays as sleds instead of piling them with dorm food, University students filled in the steps of Foellinger Auditorium with snow and made themselves a sledding hill. Despite a blizzard warning, more than 100 people were on the Quad on Tuesday, Feb. 13, to enjoy a rare snow day at the University, something that hasn't occurred since 1979.

Miles Kilgallon, sophomore in LAS, went to the Quad with his friends for a snowball fight and to play frisbee but decided to borrow lunch trays from people after he saw them sledding. After sledding for more than an hour, Kilgallon and his friends continued to line up to take their turn.



Students also found time to exercise by running across the Quad or using skis rented from Campus Recreation to get around. Others played Red Rover, tackle football, had snowball fights and built snow forts.

Ali Leipsiger, senior in ACES, was on the Quad playing in the snow and building a fort with her friends for more than an hour.

"We had a snowball fight, did some wrestling, and now we're getting down and dirty," she said. Leipsiger was building her fort using the snow that a tractor clearing pathways pushed to one side of the Quad. While working on the fort, Kirstin Hughes, senior in engineering, dug herself deeper into the mound, creating an opening to the fort.

"We're trying to see how many people will fit in it," Leipsiger said. "But I doubt all six of us will."

Despite enjoying the snow on the Quad, Leipsiger wasn't happy with late announcement of class cancellations. She had to walk to her 9 a.m. class for a scheduled exam and said she was in a bad mood. Only after her teaching assistant announced the cancellation of classes did she walk home happy.

"I haven't had a snow day since the sixth grade," she said. "High schools take pride in not canceling. I never thought it would happen."

Walking a little farther across the Quad, it was hard not to notice Jeff Wagner, sophomore in LAS, getting tackled in the snow. As he got up to brush himself off, his bare hands were beet red.

"I lost my gloves at Joe's," he said.

Even though he was blowing into his hands to warm them, he said he didn't manage to find time to purchase new gloves.

Wagner said he decided to get to the Quad by bus but thought it was a bad idea because it stopped half a block past his stop.

For Rob Bernas, graduate student, driving a car or bus didn't seem like a safe idea. After his friend Candi Lauret spent an hour shoveling her driveway to use her car to pick him up for lunch at Murphy's Pub, he declined.

"He didn't trust me to drive," said Lauret, senior in Education. "So we had to walk."

After just watching "An Inconvenient Truth," both Bernas and Lauret blamed the snowy weather on global warming.

"We're blaming Al Gore for everything," he joked.

Sitting down to have a beer after spending most of the day studying, Bernas enjoyed a break for lunch and from the cold.

"It's nice to have a day off in the middle of the semester once in a while," Bernas said.



**Opposite:** Shakirah Aljunid throws a snowball at Sharina Shohorum, sophomore and junior in LAS, respectively, on the engineering quad on Sunday afternoon. A snowstorm had just passed through the midwest the previous night, leaving almost 6 inches of fresh snow on the ground. *Photo by J. Birnbaum*  
**Left:** Little traffic can be seen on the corner of Sixth and Green during the noon hour. Businesses, schools, and the University has been canceled due to the hazardous weather. *Photo by A. Facemire*



**Center:** Saphamores Mark Lokis, right in LAS, Steve Lalka, left in AHS, carry a keg through the snow to an apartment, celebrating the day off from school. *Photo by D. Hollander*  
**Bottom:** A student pulls a sled down Green St. *Photo by D. Hollander*



STORY BY PHIL COLLINS  
RYAN DAVIS  
MARTHA SPALDING  
PHOTOS BY JOSH BIRNBAUM  
DAN HOLLANDER  
AARON FACEMIRE



A photograph of a group of people, mostly young adults, standing in a line on a polished wooden basketball court. They are wearing orange t-shirts, some with "UW" (University of Wisconsin) logos. A man in a dark jacket stands in the center of the group. The background is dark and out of focus, suggesting a large indoor arena. The lighting is warm, highlighting the subjects and the court floor.

# the last dance

CHIEF ILLINIWEK'S FINAL PERFORMANCE  
ENDS EIGHTY-YEAR UNIVERSITY TRADITION





Above: Chief Illiniwek raises his arms to an Assembly Hall audience on Feb. 21 for the last time. Photo by Amelia Moore





# the bittersweet end

SOME APPLAUD, OTHERS BEMOAN RETIREMENT AS CHIEF PERFORMS LAST DANCE

With 16, 618 fans hanging on each tap of his toe against the hardwood, each twist of his wrist that makes the soft rawhide fringe dangling off his arms and legs dance, Chief Illiniwek struggles to find his steps as an incessant flicker of flashbulbs rains down on the Assembly Hall like silver foil confetti falling on a New Year's celebration.

The flashbulbs are blinding, and the chorus of Illinois' Alma Mater echos through the arena. The Chief has danced at the Assembly Hall since the early 1960s, and has performed for Illinois sports fans almost twice as long, but the swaying masses of bleary-eyed fans and incessant photographers indicate this is not his typical halftime show.

It is Feb. 21, 2007, just five days after Larry Eppley, the Chairman of Illinois' Board of Trustees, announced Chief Illiniwek would dance his

last dance tonight. The last five days have thrown many of Illinois' classrooms into a heated race debate, have sent students and alumni rushing to the bookstores to stock up on Chief paraphernalia and have turned Dan Maloney, the thirty-seventh and now final Illinois student to portray Illiniwek, into a mini-celebrity across the state.

"Someone close to me put it very delicately, saying I had a responsibility," Maloney said. "People who support the Chief were looking to me for answers, for guidance, for leadership. I did not want to grant many interviews, but I was encouraged to speak out."

Eppley's announcement made Maloney the voice of the pro-Chief camp, thrusting him in front of TV cameras and microphones as reporters desperate for good drama swarmed Champaign to cover the Chief's last dance.



On the other side of the debate are a group of students, staff and American Indian activists who, for the past two decades, have called for the Chief's retirement. They protested at rallies on the Quad and outside Memorial Stadium, likening the performance to the blackface shows of a century ago. They say the Chief is outdated and reflects poorly on the University, painting it as a backward sports-driven school rather than a great research institution.

While Chief supporters rallied around Maloney and the cause he symbolized, most in the anti-Chief camp subtly celebrated. The University's Native America House issues a statement applauding the move and former anti-Chief activist Charlene Teters is profiled in the Champaign News-Gazette. For some, the fight against Illiniwek is far from done; these people say his legacy has left a cloud of prejudice hanging over the campus. For others, though, the war is won.

"This is it for me," said Fred Hoxie, a history professor at Illinois who vocally opposed Chief Illiniwek. "I teach American Indian history here,

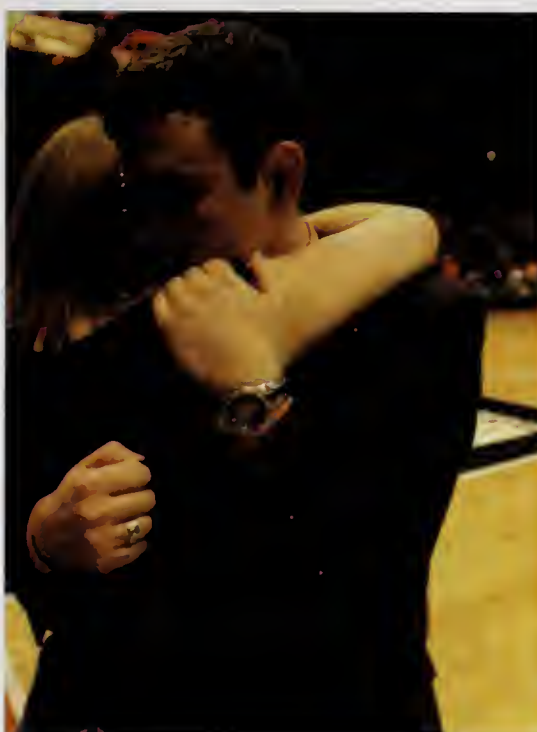


and the mascot was a significant roadblock in people's ability to understand that history."

At the next Board of Trustees Meeting in March, Eppley will leave the fate of the Chief logo, regalia and signage up to Chancellor Richard Herman. There he and the majority of the board will officially go on the record in support of the Chief's retirement.

But for now, for the sold-out crowd that has come to watch the last dance of an 81-year-old symbol, this moment is all that matters. Illiniwek walks off the court to thunderous applause, but the sound only heightens when he suddenly turns around and heads back to center court for a final bow. Then he stomps his foot one final time, and marches off the court and into history.

STORY BY **COURTNEY LINEHAN**  
PHOTOS BY **JOSH BIRNBAUM**  
**DAN HOLLANDER**  
**AMELIA MOORE**



**Opposite:** Chief Illiniwek performs for the final time. Photo by J. Birnbaum

**Top:** Chief T-shirts are on display at T.I.S. Backstore on Sixth St. in Champaign. T.I.S. hung signs stating that the officially licensed Chief apparel will soon be discontinued and become collector's items. Photo by D. Hallander

**Above:** Supporters of Chief Illiniwek stand with signs behind during the rally on the Quad just days after the announcement of retirement. Photo by J. Birnbaum

**Left:** Dan Maloney, the graduate student who portrays the Chief, hugs his girlfriend Catherine Krag, junior in Communications, on the night of the last dance. "Going into this last performance knowing an announcement has been made makes it that much more important," he said. "It makes it that much more meaningful." Photo by A. Maare





# beer for breakfast

STUDENTS CELEBRATE UNOFFICIAL DESPITE NEW REGULATIONS

†he stairs squeak under the strain of the weight, as Drew Schneider and Tyler Shimomura drag their "green keg" up the three flights to their apartment. Ready to be up and about much earlier than they have ever been for class, the two juniors are setting up for a 6:00 a.m. keg race and the biggest holiday of the year, Unofficial St. Patrick's Day.

With common events such as keg races and parties dubbed "Kegs 'n' Eggs," many students at the University were not discouraged by the steps taken by both the city and the University this spring, in hopes of diminishing the effects of the all-day drinking event.

"They are trying to force us toward responsibility," said Schneider, junior in Business. "But we are responsible all year long. Today, we'll drink."

As the 2007 Unofficial event crept closer, the University administration, as well as the City of Champaign police department and Mayor Schweighart, worked toward creating rules and regulations that would increase safety and decrease binge drinking and alcohol-related hospital visits for the day.

"Just partying with some common sense (is important) and not coming out with the mindset of getting blown away," Schweighart said. "That seems to be the attitude of this party, and God



only knows what can happen when you go out and do that."

Curtailling this mindset was the goal of the new regulations put in place this year, such as not allowing Champaign bars to open their doors until 11 a.m., prohibiting the sale of pitchers of beer and undiluted shots, and enforcing the consumption of all drinks in disposable cups. The mayor has also said he planned to ensure that anyone checking IDs at the door was 21 years old, hoping to prevent anyone under the legal age of 19 from entering.

"Strengthening bar regulations may deter public drunkenness around Green Street, but students turned away from bars will simply go drink elsewhere," Shimomura said. "That may even prove to be less safe, as those that may end up needing medical attention will not realize it and will not get help."



Recent efforts against this holiday are generally spurred from the death of a girl involved in an alcohol-related accident last year, although some point out that she was not a University of Illinois student anymore, but an alumna. The Chancellor took no chances however, placing extra faculty in numerous classes, especially those with more than 50 students.

"We are asking our students to respect themselves and engage in mindful behavior," said Peg Rawles, Associate Chancellor.

These added restrictions did prevent many students from coming to class drunk, but many chose to avoid the possibility of repercussions by not attending class at all.

"That rule tried to get us to come to class sober, then drink. But most of my friends have chosen to come here earlier and not go at all instead," Shimomura said.

STORY BY **DENI STITCH**  
PHOTOS BY **BRAD VEST**  
**JOHN PAUL GOGUEN**  
**PATRICK TRAYLOR**  
**TOM ROOT**



**Opposite:** Sophomore in LAS Locey O'Donnell takes a picture of her green clad friends of the corner of Wright and Green. Photo by J.P. Goguen

**Top:** Celebrants of Unofficial St. Patrick's Day blast loud music and yell to passersby from on upstairs apartment on Green St. Photo by T. Root

**Above:** Celebrators of Unofficial St. Patrick's Day stand outside in line for Stotion 211, at 211 E. Green St. Photo by B. Diefenbach

**Left:** Eyton Azorio, senior in LAS, said, "This is not only the funnest day of the year, but it is something the university should be proud of... It brings the university together." Photo by P. Traylor





# made for moms

UNIVERSITY HOSTS WEEKEND EVENTS DESIGNED SPECIFICALLY FOR MOTHERS

Where am I going to stash this bottle of Skol? Is she bringing groceries? I should probably clean up around here. All thoughts that race through the mind of a University of Illinois student with a mom on the way.

Year after year (and mini-van and after mini-van) mothers come to the University campus to celebrate Mom's Weekend with their daughters and sons. This year's calendar included activities like bowling, a fashion show and a screening of the motion picture *Dreamgirls*.

But for junior in LAS Molly Rafter and her mother Terri, the real meaning of Mom's weekend

is not going to University-sponsored events but rather enjoying quality time with one another.

"I have looked forward to Mom's Weekend every year Molly has been at U of I," Terri Rafter said.

This year was extra special for the Rafters because, for the first time, they were celebrating Mom's Weekend in Molly's very own apartment.

"It's a thrill for a mother to see her child in her own surroundings," said Terri, adding that her daughter Molly was eager to show her just how independent she has become.

"One of the things she wanted me to do was go shopping with her and see how well she now



handles her grocery shopping and other things like paying bills," Terri said. "Things like that make me so proud of her."

Molly was also excited to show her mother the other perks to living in Champaign-Urbana, including the nightlife.

"The most part was definitely going to an off-campus bar and having a group of gentlemen buy my mom and me a round of drinks," Molly said.

Annette Siemplenski, mother to junior in journalism Gina Siemplenski, was equally excited to "just hang out" with her daughter.

"Whenever Gina is home, it's rush-rush-rush," Annette Siemplenski said. "This was a day set aside just for us. It was just Gina and me, and I loved it."

The Siemplenskis kept their time together informal, opting out of organized events and spending the weekend as Gina would have spent it anyway. This included a trip to a fraternity house, with living conditions Annette did not enjoy.

"The whole time we're there, I'm saying, 'Why would anyone want to live here?' but it was fun," Annette said.

Annette enjoyed the role reversal of being the visitor in an apartment where her own daughter was the hostess. She said it made her feel like she and her daughter were bonding as equals.

"It was very pleasant to be on an adult level just spending time and hanging out as friends," Annette said. "Well, that is, until Gina asked for money."

STORY BY **DAVID VALDES**  
PHOTOS BY **DAVID LAI**  
**JOHN PAUL GOGUEN**  
**ADAM BABCOCK**



**Opposite:** Honniah Newmon, freshman in sociology, shops for her mother, Barb Newmon, who is waiting for the Mom's Weekend fashion show. Photo by D. Lai

**Top:** Mom's and daughters shop side by side at the Mom's Day Craft Fair. Photo by J.P. Goguen

**Center:** Kathy Logon, freshman in engineering, and her mom, Denise Logon, from Alsip, IL, compare handbags at the Mom's Day Craft Fair in the Union. Photo by J.P. Goguen

**Left:** Sigma Chi mothers are led down Daniel St. in Champaign by their sons in a pseudo-initiation ceremony. As part of Mom's Day, mothers whose sons were initiated this spring were led blindfolded into Kom's at noon. Photo by A. Babcock



# ready but anxious

## GRADUATING SENIORS PREPARE FOR LIFE OUTSIDE THE UNIVERSITY

It had finally arrived. The day every young, idealistic college anticipated but feared would never come. Despite the money-stuffed Hallmark cards flooding the mailbox, soon-to-be graduates were terrified of the light at the end of the tunnel.

For many graduating seniors, the final walk across the stage signifies the end of sixteen years of formal education, the impressive achievement of a university degree, and the terror of finding a new job and a new place in the world.

Tim Peters, a junior in philosophy, grew nervous for his impending graduation when it was still a year away. "Graduation is looking down at that 'real' ground, dark and far, and feeling that collapse in your stomach as you realize you're falling," Peters said.

Many students with liberal arts degrees felt that because of the college they were in, they had no job lined-up. Venturing out into the real world and being faced with the overwhelming expectations to succeed began to feel to many seniors like a free fall into empty space.

Despite feelings of anxiety, alumni provided a bit of reassurance to worried seniors. Eric Robins graduated in the fall with a music degree in trumpet performance. He spent the next few months

auditioning around the country at various graduate schools.

"That scared feeling . . . It's easy to get over it," Robins said. "It feels great to be out of school, out of the system. I spent my whole life in central Illinois, and I needed to get out."

A similar opinion was voiced by Laura Lukas, a senior in Spanish and psychology. "Four years was enough. I accomplished a lot and learned tons of things, but I grew tired of a routine lifestyle that consisted of endless hours of studying and having few activities to do in my free time aside from going out," Lukas said. "I've gotten a lot out of college and I'm ready for the next stage."

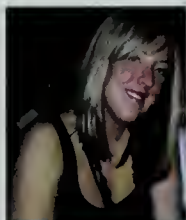
What seemed to be a liberating experience of having no job for some caused lots of anxiety for others and was not the only source of angst. Just as any major life change is nerve-wracking, the thought of starting an independent life and leaving friends, family, and the familiar behind destroyed any sense of security.

Cristina Diaz, senior in Communications, said, "Even though I graduate in May and have a job already lined up for me, I'm terrified. It seems impossible to leave the place where I have spent the best four years of my life without feeling like I am going to have a breakdown."

### all in the past



Members of the class of 2007 talk about the things they'll miss most about college.



"I'm going to miss my friends. A lot of them are moving and we don't all live near each other to begin with."

—Andrea Madland  
senior in LAS



"Chances are after graduation I won't be able to just go out and party any day of the week...or any time of day for that matter."

—Kyle McMillin  
senior in LAS





Others felt that graduation was an opportunity to be embraced and remembered. David Dralle, senior in Engineering, was one of those students.

"Graduation feelings are positive because I'm leaving the selfish world of undergraduate education," he said. "It has all been about me: my test grades, my homework, my exam tomorrow, my this and that. It's time for my actions to hit home—to finally do something that will count outside of slapping a new title on my list of achievements."

Graduation anxiety, whatever the source, was a very natural feeling to many students. And in the end, all students hoped that their college memories would provoke smiles and laughter. They trusted that the skills they took with them, wherever they were headed, would lead to exciting and unexpected places.

STORY BY **CAMILLE BROMLEY**  
PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY **BLAKE MILLER**

**Above:** Receiving that diploma is undoubtedly rewarding, but many seniors tend to 'freak out' about the consequences of graduating. As soon as the commencement ceremony ends, college grads face the reality of choosing a career, paying back student loans, leaving Urbana-Champaign, and dealing with countless other life-changing situations.



"I'm not a morning person so I think what I'll miss most is being able to sleep in. In the real world, I'm pretty sure you have to wake up at nine at least."

—**Jennie Rademacher**  
senior in ACES



"I'm going to miss the friendships that I made in college. But most of all, I'll miss the Marrow Plots."

—**Cassie Cleary**  
senior in LAS



RETRO  
GRADE ● ● ● ●

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# ask an administrator

TALKING WITH FACULTY MEMBERS ABOUT THEIR ROLES AT THE UNIVERSITY

**Opposite right:** Rabin Kaler serves as Associate Chancellor for Public Affairs.  
*Photo by L. Olsan*

**Opposite left:** Renee Romana is the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs at Illinois.  
*Photo by L. Olsan*

**Above:** Chancellor Richard Herman speaks with alumni.  
*Photo by B. Diefenbach*

## Richard Herman university chancellor

The role of the Office of the Chancellor is to improve the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Richard Herman was named chancellor in May 2005, making him the chief administrative officer. All vice-chancellors, associate chancellors, and directors work under him.

### What do you believe are the strengths of this university?

RH: A legacy of excellence. We've contributed to innovations in science and technology. We've had 22 Nobel Prizes and 21 Pulitzer Prize winners. Also, we have world-class facilities and great students all across the area. Ultimately, outstanding students and alumni that have gone on to do great things.

### What concerns or struggles is the University presently facing?

RH: At some level, it's money. We haven't got the support from the state as we have had in the past. We're always competing for students and faculty, but we do our best.

### What are some of the new initiatives the school is attempting?

RH: We are trying to have a local-to-global philosophy. The question is, "How do we turn the resources of our institution into our own backyard?" We want to connect more nationally from the west coast to Washington, D.C., and globally, as we have with India, China and Singapore. We want to increase diversity and continue to prepare students for leadership roles.



## Renee Romano

vice chancellor  
for student affairs

Student Affairs is the department in charge of programs, services, and facilities to accommodate students such as University Housing, McKinley Health Center, the Illini Union, and the Division of Campus Recreation.

**What does the variety of registered student organizations show about the University?**

RR: I think it shows not only that we have a real diversity in students, but also that U of I students are particularly active in the University. When I see the protests, people going to athletic events, I think students are engaged in this university. Students create student life.

**How does the Department of Student Affairs help students achieve their full potential?**

RR: We think of Student Affairs as creating opportunities for students to learn outside the classroom. You're learning about dealing with people of other cultures, you're learning what you're good at, how you might shape your future career, leadership and communication skills, how things work; how to make change at the University – and then carry this on to your community.



**How should new students handle the size of this campus?**

RR: Find a small community to affiliate with. It might be your academic peers, residence hall, registered student organization, or fraternity or sorority. Being affiliated with a close group of friends gives you the courage to go into the bigger university. If you have difficulty finding a small group, get one or two mentors to help you along.



## Robin Kaler

associate chancellor  
for public affairs

Public Affairs is the department that markets the value and excellence of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign to the public, from the state to all over the world.

**How do you think the University has developed a reputation as one of the best public universities in the country?**

RK: Illinois has a rich tradition of national and international leadership in science, technology, business, agriculture and many other fields. Our students graduate and become the leaders of their generation in all sorts of fields. They discover, invent, create, and change the world.

**How do you maintain that reputation?**

RK: We are working very hard not only to remain one of the best public research universities in the nation, but to become the pre-eminent one. This requires strong leadership, a clear vision of excellence, and strategic initiatives that will set us apart from our peers.

**What can the University do to attract more distinguished faculty and gifted students?**

RK: Faculty and students say they choose Illinois--and they stay here--because this is a place with strength across so many disciplines and a very collegial and creative atmosphere. Enhancing that and providing the support faculty and students need to do their best work will allow us to continue attracting the best minds.

**How does the reputation of this University help graduates who are seeking jobs or applying to graduate schools?**

RK: Employers tell us that they love to hire Illinois graduates, because our students are hard-working, creative and independent, and they very quickly become leaders.

INTERVIEWS BY JAMIE JOHN  
PHOTOS BY LINDSAY OLSON  
BECK DIEFENBACH



# ahead of the game

FRESHMEN TAKE ADVANTAGE OF CLASSES DESIGNED TO EASE TRANSITION TO COLLEGE

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences has developed a series of courses geared toward acclimating freshmen to their new lives at the University. LAS Learning Communities, which are available only to freshmen and led by students in their junior or senior years, were created to bring new students together to share their experiences at the University in an academic setting.

To participate, students enroll in general education courses, as well as the component LAS 100 course, which then meets once a week to discuss the class. There are over 60 classes offered through this program in a variety of majors, including history, political science, psychology, English, chemistry and economics.

Program director Christine Hammer said that students are encouraged to take classes in a variety of majors helping them realize that "it's okay to be undecided."

For example, Brittany Cherry, freshman in Liberal Arts and Sciences, is a history major taking the LAS Learning Communities course with Math 125.

"It makes me feel better that other people are struggling with some of the stuff too," she said. "That is different than many of my classes, it's more personal."

The classes aren't just focused on the associated course. Leaders discuss a range of different topics pertaining to the University each week. During these classes, students can also find out about study abroad opportunities, get tips on apartment hunting, and learn how to reduce stress during finals time. Freshmen are able to ask questions about University life and also get the opportunity to meet other new students.

"A lot of the kids in this class are in my other classes so I formed some study groups," Cherry said. "I also like to hang out with them on the weekends."

In her description of the learning communities, Hammer said that the program "helps students overcome the transition between high school and college."

The program has been so successful that enrollment has only grown with each year. In fact, Hammer said that nearly half of the leaders involved were students in the program as freshmen.

As a University alumnus, Hammer is both a former student and leader in the program. While freshmen get the opportunity to meet other students, leaders also benefit from the arrangement.

Student leader Gail Grana, junior in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, said that, as a member of the education program, she joined the program for the experience and the chance to help students become oriented to the University. Grana leads two groups of approximately 18 students in Classical Civilizations.

"I have learned how to relate to students and how to use different ways of relating for different people," Grana said.

Hammer, Cherry and Grana all pointed out the benefits of participating in the Learning Communities, such as forming friendships with other students, getting help on homework, and acclimating to life away from home.

"Everyone will probably learn the same things eventually," Hammer said. "Our program might just help some of them learn sooner."

STORY BY EMILY SCHELL

PHOTO BY LINDSEY KRUPICKA

## finding a college community

Seven living-learning communities allow students to become part of the experience that is Illinois. These groups form a common bond between each other, as they share common interests, resources, classes, and even classrooms.



### WIMSE

Women interested in a curriculum in the fields of mathematics, science, or engineering will find a home in WIMSE. This living-learning community facilitates academic success while providing a network of women with common goals and interests.

### LEADS

Students in Leadership Experience through Academic Development and Service (LEADS) focus on self-development, group dynamics, and communication skills. This Garner Hall living-learning community is excited about making a difference.

### Unit One

Unit one takes the large campus of Illinois and creates a small college environment for its 650 residents. Field trips, workshops, and guests-in-residence are all part of this program's success.





**Above:** Scott Sellers, freshman in LAS, listens intently to his Learning Community leader as Kristen Richter, a fellow freshman in LAS, looks on.

### Intersections

Opened in 2004, the Intersections living-learning community provides a forum and environment where students can openly discuss social and cultural issues faced by the University and the world today.

### Health Professions

The Health Professions community is prime for those interested in Pre-Health, medicine, nursing and therapy. Programming gives students community service opportunities to gain experience in the professional field of health care.

### Crossroads

Students who are ready to travel overseas, whether for their career, study abroad, or an international major/minor look to the Global Crossroads program as their home while at Illinois. The program, in its sixth year, accommodates 110 diverse students.

### Weston Exploration

Since its opening in the Fall of 1997, the Weston Exploration living-learning community has helped students realize how majors directly correlate to careers in the professional world. With 475 students, this program is very popular with those in LAS.



# college of aces

AGRICULTURAL, ENVIRONMENTAL,  
& CONSUMER SCIENCES

## **facts & statistics**

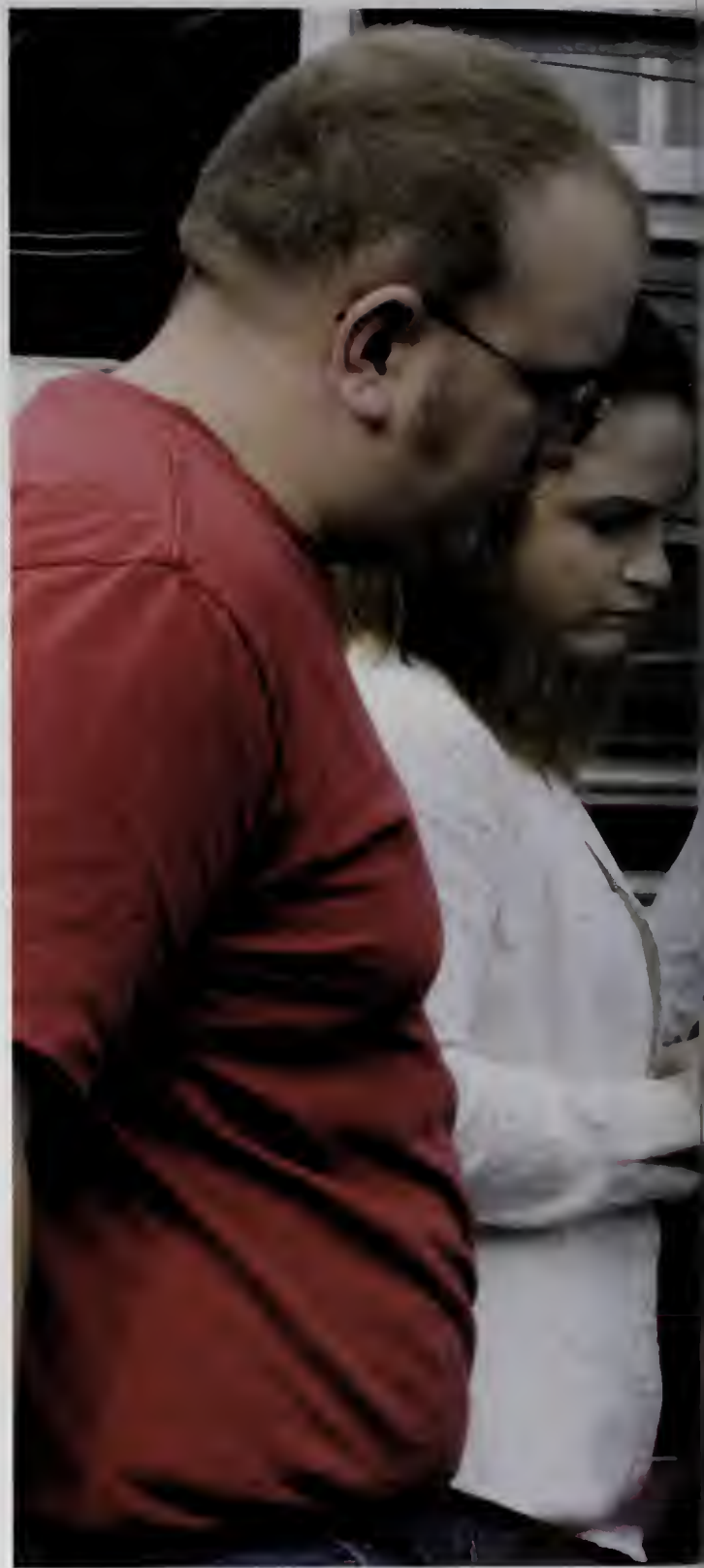
Total Enrollment: 2,738  
Undergraduates: 2,268  
Graduates: 470  
Faculty & Staff: 1,991

## **dean of college**

Robert A. Easter

## **major buildings**

Mumford Hall  
ACES Library



## **academic departments**

- Agricultural & Biological Engineering
- Agricultural & Consumer Economics
- Animal Sciences
- Crop Sciences
- Food Science & Human Nutrition
- Human & Community Development
- Natural Resources & Environmental Sciences
- Division of Nutritional Sciences





## INTERVIEW WITH AMY FUJINAKA: JUNIOR IN ACES

**How is ACES different from the other colleges on this campus?**

AF: ACES is extremely diverse. We have so many different majors you can choose from. You can do food science to agriculture.

**How did you decide to become a Food Science and Human Nutrition Major?**

AF: I really enjoy watching how food develops and learning how food can change your body. It's interesting how food is the most important thing in your life, but people take it for granted.

**What do you learn in your classes?**

AF: We learn about food nutrition, chemical breakdown of food, how food is processed and packaged, food sanitation, and how food is used in the business industry.

**Why is ACES is a valuable part of this University?**

AF: I feel like ACES are majors that are pertinent to everyday life. A lot of the ACES majors are based on environmental things and they help out our world.

**Opposite:** The Aces Library, located on the South Quad, is the official Library of the College of Agricultural, Environmental and Consumer Sciences. *Photo by L. Krupicka*

**Above:** Professor Daniel Wanack, Horticulture Professor, teaches Horticulture 341. The students are in the greenhouse measuring growth of their paintsetta's that they have been growing all semester. Students include: Jason Perry-Jr. in Agriculture Education, Christie Rosentreter-Sn. in Agriculture Education, Erica Monley-Jr. in Horticulture, Dan Klapfenstein-Jr. in Agriculture Education, and Kelly Francis-Jr. in Horticulture. *Photo by A. Augello*

INTERVIEW BY JAMIE JOHN  
PHOTOS BY ALISA AUGELLO  
LINDSEY KRUPICKA



# classroom in the kitchen



## HOSPITALITY MANAGEMENT MAJORS GAIN REAL-WORLD RESTAURANT EXPERIENCE

"We had the original furniture and a lot of the same décor," North said. "The chairs were wobbly and the décor was really outdated."

Despite the renovations, not everything changed. Many of the menu items remained the same, maintaining a nostalgic ambience to the café. With the addition of Chef Jean-Louis Ledent a few years ago, some items were fine-tuned and tweaked, but nothing drastic. Ranging from country-fried steak to tilapia to the popular soy glazed salmon, there are selections for many different tastes.

Senior in Agricultural, Consumer, and Environmental Sciences Jenna Cramer is a café regular.

"I probably come here three times a week," she said.

In contrast to the café's casual atmosphere, the Spice Box restaurant is a pricier, more upscale dining experience that requires reservations. Menu items include swordfish and lamb chops, with prices ranging from \$18 to \$24 per item.

Open every Friday and an occasional Tuesday, it is an opportunity for students to plan, prepare and run a themed fine-dining restaurant. As part of the Hospitality Management Program, FSHN 443—Fine Dining Management is a course for seniors and teaches the demands of food service, artistry, and how to merchandise high quality food. Students take turns managing a specific theme night and are encouraged to bring a guest chef on board.

Students in both programs find the experience challenging, but ultimately rewarding.

"I really like the hands-on experience," said Beth Rich, junior in Agricultural, Consumer, and Environmental Sciences and café employee. "This isn't something you can learn how to do out of a textbook."

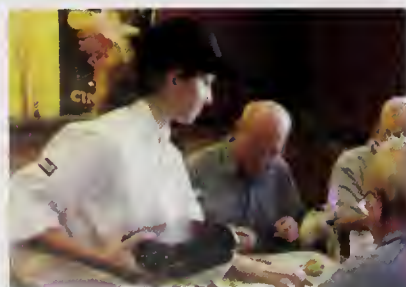
STORY BY ELIZABETH WEBER  
PHOTOS BY STEVE TWARDOWSKI

Many students searching for a healthy alternative to food served in the dining halls find what they are looking for at the Bevier Café. Located in Bevier Hall on Goodwin Ave., Bevier Café and the Spice Box restaurant have been student operated businesses since their debut in the 1950s.

As the lab portion of Food Science and Human Nutrition (FSHN) 340: Quantity Food Preparation, students are given a hands-on feel for running a restaurant. Student responsibilities include food preparation, serving, and management. Even with reasonable prices and a student friendly environment, Jill North, a teaching associate with the department of FSHN, finds it surprising how little students outside the program actually know about the café.

"A lot of people graduate and don't even know that we are here," she said.

North feels recent renovations to the café will attract a new crop of students. This was the first time renovations had been made to Bevier Café since its opening over 50 years ago.







**Opposite top:** Nicole Isabelli, junior in ACES, works the cash register on a Friday afternoon in the Bevier Café.  
**Opposite left, right:** Students and faculty enjoy lunch on a Friday afternoon.  
**Left:** Beth Rich, junior in ACES, prepares food in the kitchen of the Bevier Café.  
**Above:** Stephanie Haines, junior in ACES, serves lunch at Bevier.



# college of applied health sciences



## **facts & statistics**

Total Enrollment: 1,872  
Undergraduates: 1,638  
Graduates: 234  
Faculty & Staff: 292

## **dean of college**

Tanya M. Gallagher

## **major building**

George Huff Hall

## **academic departments**

- Athletic Training
- Audiology
- Community Health
- Health Education & Promotion
- Health Planning & Administration
- Human Communication Science
- Kinesiology
- Kinesiology Teaching Option in Physical Education (K-12)
- Recreation Management
- Recreation, Sport & Tourism
- Rehabilitation & Disability Studies
- Speech & Hearing Science
- Speech Language Pathology
- Sport Management
- Tourism Management







## INTERVIEW WITH AMINA AHMED: SENIOR IN AHS

**Why did you become a community health major?**

AA: I decided to become a community health major because I want to open a clinic one day and community health teaches you how to deal with patients and how a clinic is operated. It gives you more knowledge than just being a doctor.

**How is AHS different from other colleges?**

AA: It's different because it's a good college for anyone in any type of health field to gain information about health care and medicine.

**What do you think of the new name change from Applied Life Studies to Applied Health Sciences?**

AA: I think they made a good decision because Applied Life Studies was kind of vague. Applied Health Sciences sounds more professional, and it does a better job of describing what students learn.

**What kind of material do you learn in community health classes for your major?**

AA: We learn how to plan public health projects and about the political side of health care.

**Opposite:** Poul Ahn, senior in Engineering, practices the hockey stop during Kinesiology 104: Skating Activities, a course offered through AHS. "It's really harder than it looks," says Ahn. "The trick is to keep your balance."

**Above:** Huff Hall, which is located at 1206 S. Fourth St., is the center for the College of Applied Health Sciences.

RETROGRADE  
college of ahs

INTERVIEW BY JAMIE JOHN  
PHOTOS BY LINDSAY OLSON



# an academic alternative

## KINESIOLOGY COURSES TAKE STUDENTS OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

Ask students to imagine a classroom and usually you will hear desks, a chalkboard, and a podium in their answer. Now, ask kinesiology majors to imagine a classroom and you may hear a completely different response.

Kinesiology is one of the few majors that is taught best outside the traditional classroom. It's not uncommon to find kinesiology students in ice skating rinks, basketball courts, or even bowling alleys.

The kinesiology program, which is currently ranked as one of the top ten kinesiology research institutions, is mainly concentrated on the study of human movement. This program educates approximately 1,000 undergraduate and 105 graduate students on health matters, human movement, and rehabilitation. Dance activities, sociology of sports, and physical activities and health are just some of the numerous kinesiology classes available.

Even with the large amount of courses, securing a seat in any kinesiology class can be difficult.

Sarah Sensmeier, from the kinesiology Undergraduate Advising Office said, "Unless you're a kinesiology major, it's virtually impossible."

Because of increasing popularity, the kinesiology courses are competitive, even among students in the program. The kinesiology major is

in high demand because of guaranteed short- and long-term benefits. Bianca Spencer, a sophomore in LAS, enrolled in the kinesiology 199 aerobics course. "The class lowers cholesterol and blood pressure and...improves motor skills," she said.

The short-term goals of students in kinesiology classes include health benefits and general knowledge about human movement. Within the study of human movement, kinesiology students can participate in any of three concentrations, bio-behavioral kinesiology, cultural, pedagogical, and interpretive studies, and exercise physical and athletic training.

Within these concentrations, students can study a variety of topics such as human movement in sports, the relationship between physical activity and culture, sociological perspectives, or energy transfer and work output.

The kinesiology discipline also provides a large range of professional and scientific career opportunities, including athletic training, coaching, corporate fitness, sport psychology, and cardiac rehabilitation.

Kinesiology academic advisor Megan Farris said, "Kinesiology is a great degree for people interested in health profession. We even have pre-med students in our department."

STORY BY **ASHLEY SHERIFF**  
PHOTOS BY **LINDSAY OLSON**

## IF YOU COULD INVENT YOUR OWN KINESIOLOGY CLASS, WHAT WOULD IT BE?



"I would invent a Survivor-style class with an obstacle course that has mind teasers and riddles, which decide how much further you can move on."

—Hiral Patel  
Junior in Business



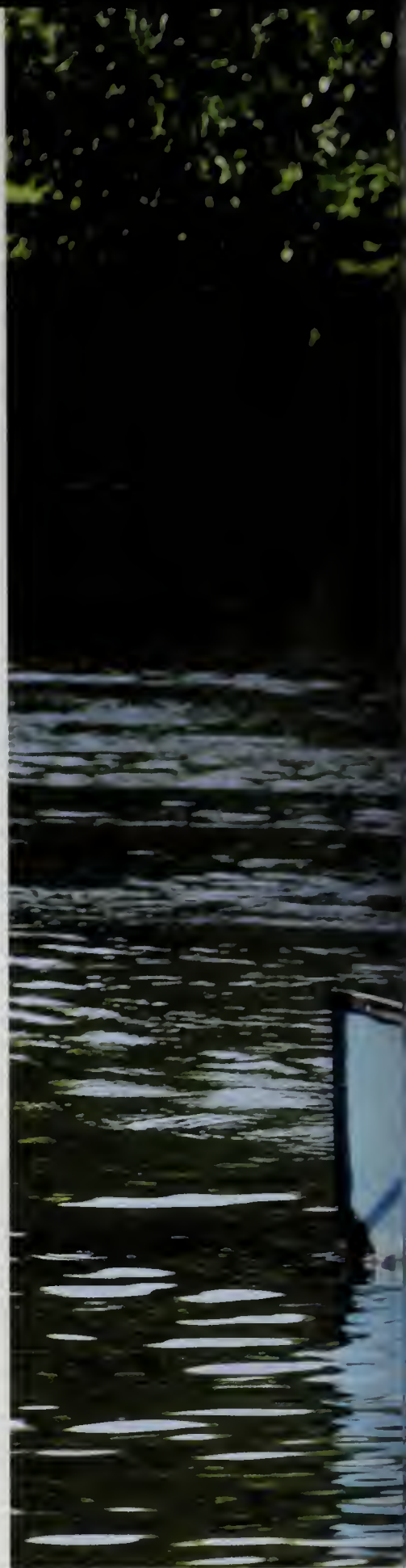
"Tetherball because it's going to be the next extreme sport everyone will compete in."

—Peter Azra  
senior in Engineering



"Horse-back riding. Not a lot of people get an opportunity to be near horses because most students live in the city or suburbs."

—Rosemary Pfau  
sophomore in LAS







**Above:** Natasha Karniski, senior in LAS, and Paula Faherty senior in ALS, work on the new 'reverse sweep' stroke while making sure to keep in sync with their paddling during Kinesiology 107.

**Far left:** Bob McGrew, assistant director of outdoor adventures for the Division of Campus Recreation, instructs his class at Crystal Lake Park in Urbana.

**Left:** Lauren Aycock, junior in LAS, and instructor Bob McGrew prepare to launch from the dock.



# institute of aviation

**facts & statistics**

Total Enrollment: 262

Undergraduates: 256

Graduates: 6

Faculty & Staff: 68

**director of program**

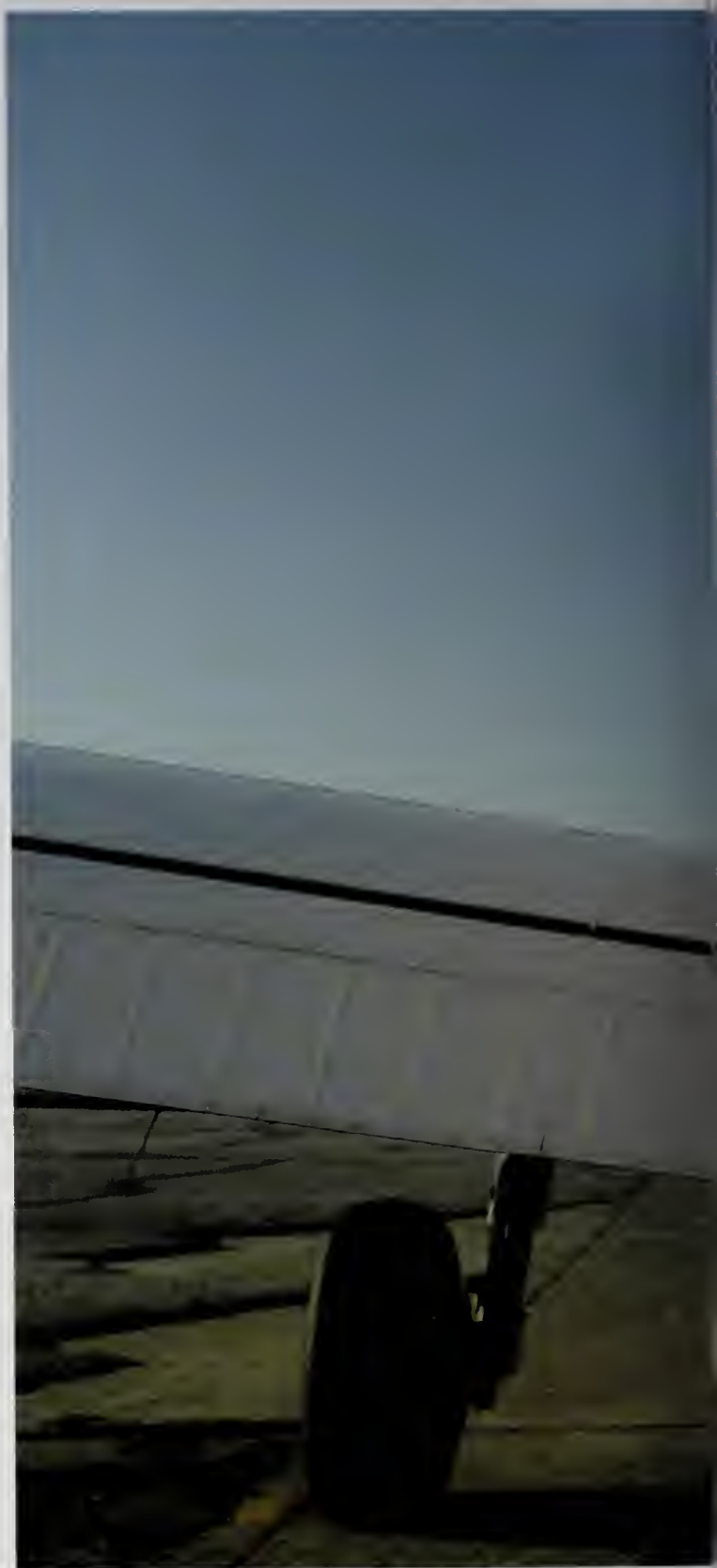
C. Elaine McCoy

**major building**

Willard Airport

**academic departments**

- Aviation Human Factors
- Professional Pilot







## INTERVIEW WITH STEPHANIE SWANSON: SENIOR IN AVIATION

**How is the Institute of Aviation different from the other colleges on campus?**

SS: The Institute of Aviation is different because we have a hands on program. The second day at the airport you are put into the airplane and taught how to control it. We do take aviation classes so that when something new is introduced to you, you will have an idea of how to do it.

**Why did you become an Aviation major?**

SS: I have a lot of ex-military pilots in my family and hearing their stories about flying made me decide I wanted to fly at a young age.

**What types of material do you learn in classes for your major?**

SS: You learn everything from how to start the plane to how to be safe. Another class is systems where you learn all about how everything on the aircraft is powered to work.

**What do you think of the Aviation program at this University?**

SS: I love the Institute of Aviation. It's a smaller major so you get to know a lot of the people you fly with. We have a great flight team and a good reputation of producing good pilots.

**Opposite left:** Willford University of Illinois Airport in Savoy, Ill. serves as the on-site classroom for Aviation students.

**Opposite right:** Stephanie Swanson, senior in Aviation, is also a part-time flight instructor at the Institute of Aviation.

**Above:** Left, Robert Hollis and David Eokln, both sophomores in the Professional Pilot Division, sit in front of one of the many aircrafts flown by aviation majors at Willford Airport.



# study across seas

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS MAKE THEIR HOME AT THE UNIVERSITY

Native Illinoisians are often surprised to find that international students choose to study in the Midwest. Most Americans might not consider a wealth of corn and soy fields a major draw to the area.

Even so, more than 1,500 international students are enrolled in the University of Illinois. With the largest library system in the nation, sixteen colleges with over 100 programs and more than 1,000 tenured professors, what Illinois lacks in location, it makes up for in academic quality.

The larger programs such as the College of Engineering and the College of Business seem to be the biggest international draws. The University has a well known reputation internationally for academics that positively reinforces images of the Midwest.

When asked why she chose the University of Illinois over other American universities, Nicole Jungyeon Yoon, senior in Business, from Seoul in the Republic of Korea, said that professors from her home university had recommended it.

Noel Gordon, junior in Engineering, on exchange from the University of Wollongong in Australia, said "University of Illinois has one of the best Engineering programs in the United States." But it is not just the academics of the University that attract international students. "Even though the Mid-West doesn't have as much to see and do

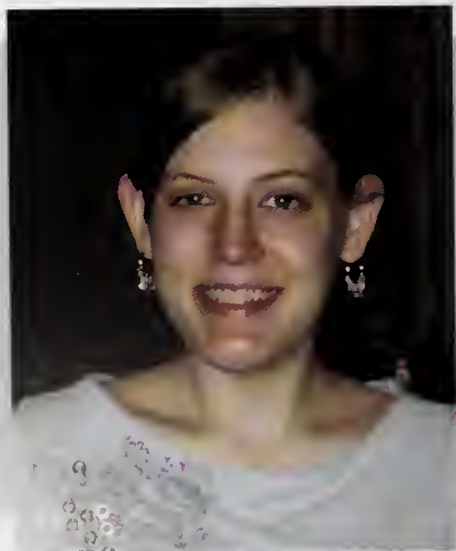
as the coast I think the people are far more friendly and fun," said Gordon.

Because studying abroad can be such an intimidating experience, the University's Midwestern location also offers a more intimate experience for many students. ChungHee Moon, senior in Engineering from the Republic of Korea, has chosen to receive her entire degree here at the University. The personal atmosphere has been a major attraction for her. The relatively rural area, combined with a large campus size and extensive diversity were all factors in her decision.

Studying abroad is more than just a choice; it is a life changing experience. Most international students take advantage of their time by utilizing breaks and weekends to travel and explore various parts of the United States. Champaign-Urbana's close proximity to major cities, such as St. Louis, Chicago, Madison, and Indianapolis allows opportunities to make the most of one's time in the Midwest.

And many students manage to travel from coast to coast while studying at the University of Illinois. Gordon said, "I have traveled around the mid-west and I have plans to see both coasts, Mexico and Canada" while Moon also said she went to Mexico for spring break.

The University organizes a host of programs to aid students in their transition. The Office of



## from illinois to england ●●●●●●●●

Courtney Coppernoll, sophomore in LAS, tells about her study abroad experience

**Why did you decide to do study abroad in Sheffield, England?**

CC: Ever since a class trip to France when I was sixteen, I've been absolutely in love with Europe. So, when I finally had the opportunity to study abroad my only concern was deciding where I wanted to go!

**How has your trip helped you sympathize with an international student?**

CC: It's made me more aware of how difficult it is to make friends from your host country. I feel that international students really want to assimilate into the host culture; they just need someone to invite them in.





International Student Affairs offers an International Buddy Program, an Exchange Student Advisor as well as resources to improve English.

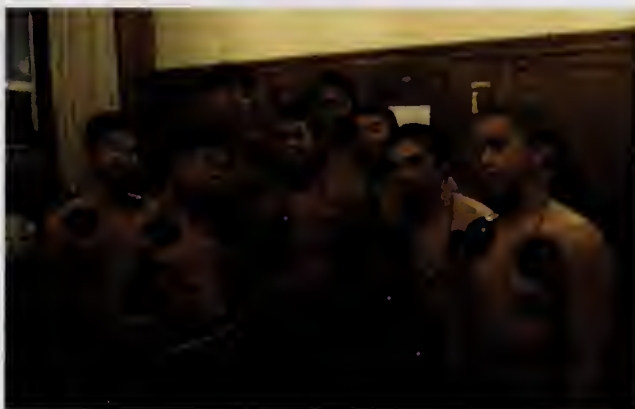
Many students however, find that the most valuable resources are their peers, roommates, friends and predecessors. Moon said "Undergraduate dorm and interaction with dorm-mates were most helpful."

But ultimately, one's success at the University lies in oneself. Getting involved in one of the 1000 registered student organizations is a key component of life at Urbana-Champaign.

When asked about any advice she would give to students planning on studying abroad, either here in the United States or to other countries, Yoon said "Actively participate in many events, such as Halloween or volunteering."

Although embracing the opportunity to study abroad can be frightening at times, the experience is well worth the initial intimidation.

STORY BY **EMILY SCHELL**  
PHOTOS BY **BLAKE MILLER**



**Above:** Illinois and international students share a meal at the International Dinner.

**Left:** Jahanna Berge, freshman in LAS, and Marianna Berge, freshman in ACES, sit with Mehdi Shadanehr and his father Reza during the International Dinner.

**Below:** These coconut-clad men are preparing to perform a native dance onstage at the International Dinner.



# college of business

## **facts & statistics**

Total enrollment: 3,880

Undergraduate: 3,008

Graduate: 872

Faculty and Staff: 386

## **dean of college:**

Avijit Ghosh

## **major buildings:**

Wholers Hall

David Kinley Hall



## **academic departments**

- Accountancy
- Finance
- Business Administration with concentrations in:
  - Marketing
  - Organizational Administration
  - Production
  - Management Science
  - Industrial Distribution Management
  - Management Information Systems
  - Entrepreneurship
  - Food & Agribusiness Management





## INTERVIEW WITH MICHAEL BRIDGFORD: SENIOR IN BUSINESS

**How is the College of Business different from the other colleges?**

MB: A great aspect of the College of Business is that it is a tight-knit community of students and faculty. The lower enrollment relative to other colleges helps create a competitive environment, which prepares students well for the business world.

**Why did you decide to become an accounting major?**

MB: I was attracted to the accountancy program because of its national reputation and the skill set I would acquire for my career. I have been challenged academically and feel prepared to enter the business world upon graduation.

**What kind of material do you learn?**

MB: Accounting classes taught me about understanding how organizations convey information to the public and the role of government in regulation. I also learned that business is not always clear and sound judgment must be used in decision-making.

**How has your involvement with student organizations added to your college experience?**

MB: Through my involvement I was able to develop as a leader, communicator, and person. Networking is arguably the most important part of business, and being involved in student organizations gave me the opportunity to meet many people with similar interests to me.

**Opposite:** Andrew Gruber and Alyssa D'Anno, both seniors in business, look over resumes and lists of potential employers of the Business Career Fair in the Illini Union. *Photo by J. Birnbom*

**Above:** Wohlers Hall, located at 1206 S. Sixth St., is home to the College of Business faculty and classes. *Photo by L. Olson*

INTERVIEW BY ADAM SWIATEK  
PHOTOS BY LINDSAY OLSON  
JOSH BIRNBAUM

RETROGRADE  
college of business



# starting the search

STUDENTS TAKE ADVANTAGE OF UNIVERSITY RESOURCES TO FIND INTERNSHIPS

Everyone asks students what they are going to do with their degree after they graduate. They are asked questions like "What are you interested in?" "What kind of job are you looking for?" and "Where do you see yourself in ten years?" To find answers to these questions, students throughout the campus of Illinois take advantage of on-campus recruitment events that bring employers to them.

In the fall and early spring of the school year, companies from around Illinois and the nation flocked to the Illini Union to meet prospective new-hires. Employers brought with them fancy displays, give-aways, and business cards for students. Students, in turn, came dressed in their freshly pressed business suits with portfolio and resumes in hand.

In what kind of event do these two parties meet for a very quick exchange? None other than a career fair. The Illini Union hosted a multitude of career fairs this past year. The College of Business Fair and the Engineering Expo were the most popular fairs among students.

Anirudha Jalan, junior in Business, said, "The Spring Career Fair at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign was a successful effort. Several companies, ranging from many industries, showed up at the career fair to hunt for deserving candidates."

Anirudha found many companies he was interested in at the fair. "It would not be a feast for

finance majors unless we see representatives from Goldman Sachs, Morgan Stanley, Bank of America Securities, Citi, Lehman, UBS, and JP Morgan."

While older career-seekers were on the prowl for an exciting internship or a well-paying job, there were also younger ambitious freshman and sophomores who were gaining experience for the future.

Christina Fertl, freshman in Business, said, "Career fairs allow students to create relationships with companies starting at the freshman level. A nice handshake and conversation with an employee of a company helps enhance one's name. I find that networking with the company early on leads to an easier path to an internship or job."

Career-fair attendees young and old know that the first impression is everything. Behaving in a professional manner is important and will get job-seekers noticed. Internships are awarded to those students whom employers remember and have had a personal relationship with – even if it was only for twenty seconds at a career fair.

The Career Center, located on Wright Street, offers helpful resources when preparing for career fairs, interviews, and job-hunting. In addition, students should check if their college has a specialized career unit.

STORY BY ADAM SWIATEK  
PHOTOS BY DAN HOLLANDER



## not your everyday internship ●●●●●●●●●●

During the summer of 2006, Kyle Follansbee, senior in ACES, interned at a Buddhist monastery in Kanchanaburi, Thailand, where he worked with Indochinese tigers.





**Opposite:** Kyle Fallansbee, senior in ACES, found a summer internship working with tigers in Thailand through "Veterinarians Without Borders." Photo courtesy of K. Fallansbee  
**Above:** Graduate students in ACES Nerissa Vaughn, left, and Young Sao Sang, right, look over their resumes one last time before talking to company representatives during the College of ACES career fair during the fall semester. Photo by D. Hallander

#### How did you find out about this internship?

KF: A friend of mine, Arvind Badri-narayanan, started a group called "Veterinarians Without Borders." He told me where he was going and I thought that sounded cool, so I decided to go.

#### What were your responsibilities during the internship?

KF: I woke up in the morning and cleaned the tiger cages, then took cubs to the head temple where I ate breakfast with the monks. Next, I would take the cubs to Tiger Canyon where visitors could take photos of them. Then, I would feed the cubs.

#### How did this affect plans for your future career?

KF: I was planning to go to vet school, but I decided it wasn't for me. After going on this internship and working with exotic animals, it opened up my eyes. I want to go to Thailand and teach English and try to work at a couple of animal sanctuaries.



# college of communications



## **facts & statistics**

Total enrollment: 965

Undergraduate: 852

Graduate: 113

Faculty & Staff: 203

## **dean of college**

Ronald E. Yates

## **major buildings**

Gregory Hall

## **academic departments**

Advertising

Broadcast Journalism

Media Studies

News-Editorial Journalism



## **INTERVIEW WITH FRANK VANDERWALL:**

**Why did you become an advertising major in the College of Communications?**

FV: I was an engineering major at first and it wasn't my thing. I knew I really liked the theory behind communications and I stumbled upon advertising. Advertising is really creative and required strategic thinking. It fit my personality really well.





**Opposite:** Gregory Hall, at 810 S. Wright Street, is home to the College of Communications. **Above:** Jaime Zimmerman, senior in Communications and Andreka Johnson, senior in the journalism masters program, are sharing a laugh while waiting to go back on the air.

## SENIOR IN COMMUNICATIONS

**Why do you think admission into the advertising program at the University is competitive?**

FV: People are starting to figure it out. People like the artistic and creative side of advertising. The U of I program is consistently ranked in the top five. We have amazing opportunities. We offer things other schools don't.

**What do you learn in advertising classes?**

FV: The advertising curriculum here gives you real-world experiences. We learn what it means to work with clients, creative aspects that go with it, and management. We have a huge advertising project where we formed an agency in the class, found our own resources, and made a campaign.

INTERVIEW BY **JAMIE JOHN**  
PHOTOS BY **LINDSAY OLSON**



# network in new york

JOURNALISM STUDENTS MAKE CONTACTS AT MAJOR MAGAZINE PUBLISHERS

**A** 20 minute walk up-town to Avenue of the Americas. Ten minutes to check into security. Four minutes to get into the elevator and reach floor 15. One minute to enter the magazine office. This fast-paced schedule is what 11 students and four communications faculty members experienced while visiting magazines in New York City in March.

"We were on the go from the minute our plane landed in New York," said David Valdes, a junior in Communications. "I probably got less than 10 hours of sleep the entire time we were there, but I just kept running on adrenaline and excitement." The trip to New York was organized by communications advisor Lynn Holley to help journalism students learn about the magazine industry.

"Our journalism students are at a disadvantage because all of the magazines are in New York," Holley said. "We wanted to give the students a chance to see what the industry is about and make some contacts."

Since 2005, Holley has taken a small group of Illinois journalism students who are interested in magazines to New York. During the three day trip, the Illinois group toured 14 magazine offices, networked with alumni, and explored the city. The schedule of magazines changes from year-to-year depending on where Illinois alumni are working. This year the group visited magazines a range of magazines including Rolling Stone, Newsweek, Popular Mechanics, US Weekly, Bloomberg and Esquire.com.

"We try to go to magazines where U of I alumni are involved," Holley said. "These places have been more open to us and helpful in getting our students internships."



At the magazine offices, students talked with editors and writers about working in the industry, what goes on behind-the-scenes at a magazines, and how to be successful.

Valdes said he was surprised at how enthusiastic and helpful the alumni in the industry were.

"I think they know how cool the business is, but also how intimidating it is to get into," Valdes said. "They really tried to show us the way and keep us motivated."

Valdes he has always been interested in working for a magazine and the trip with the College of Communications only solidified his decision to work in New York.

"The alumni helped us realize that when we first start out we will be poor and living in a tiny apartment eating Ramen noodles, but it will be so worth it," Valdes said. "They are proof that hard work does pay off and there is a light at the end of the tunnel."

STORY BY **BRITTNEY BEKAS**  
PHOTOS COURTESY OF **SUSAN MCKENNA**





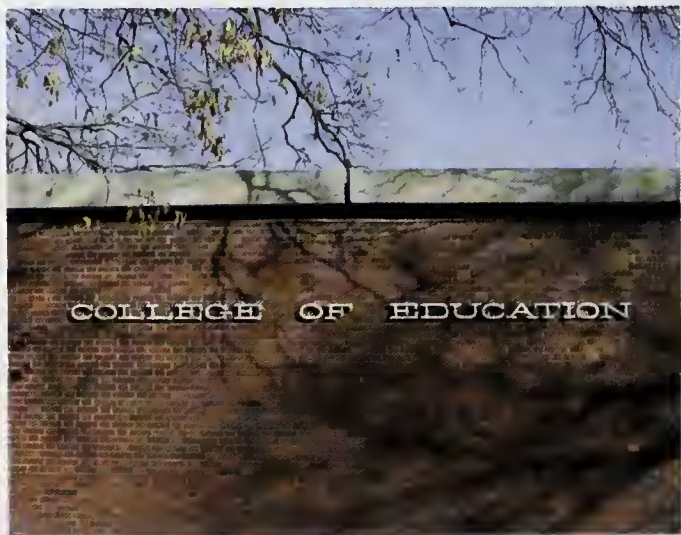
**Opposite:** Tom Longe, John Mantio, and Chris Benson, graduate students in Communications, speak with Ken Wheaton, features editor of *Advertising Age*. Students visited 13 other mogozines while New York.

**Above:** Senior science editor of *Popular Mechanics* Jennifer Bogo explains the mogozine mock layout board to John Montia, graduate student in Communications. Bogo took the group on a tour of the office and intraduced them to the editor-in-chief.

**Left:** The group of journalism students takes notes in the board room of *Real Simple* magazine. While at *Real Simple*, students spoke with five different editors to learn how each reached their position in the industry



# college of education



## facts & statistics

Total enrollment: 1,635  
Undergraduate: 699  
Graduate: 936  
Faculty and Staff: 100

## dean of college

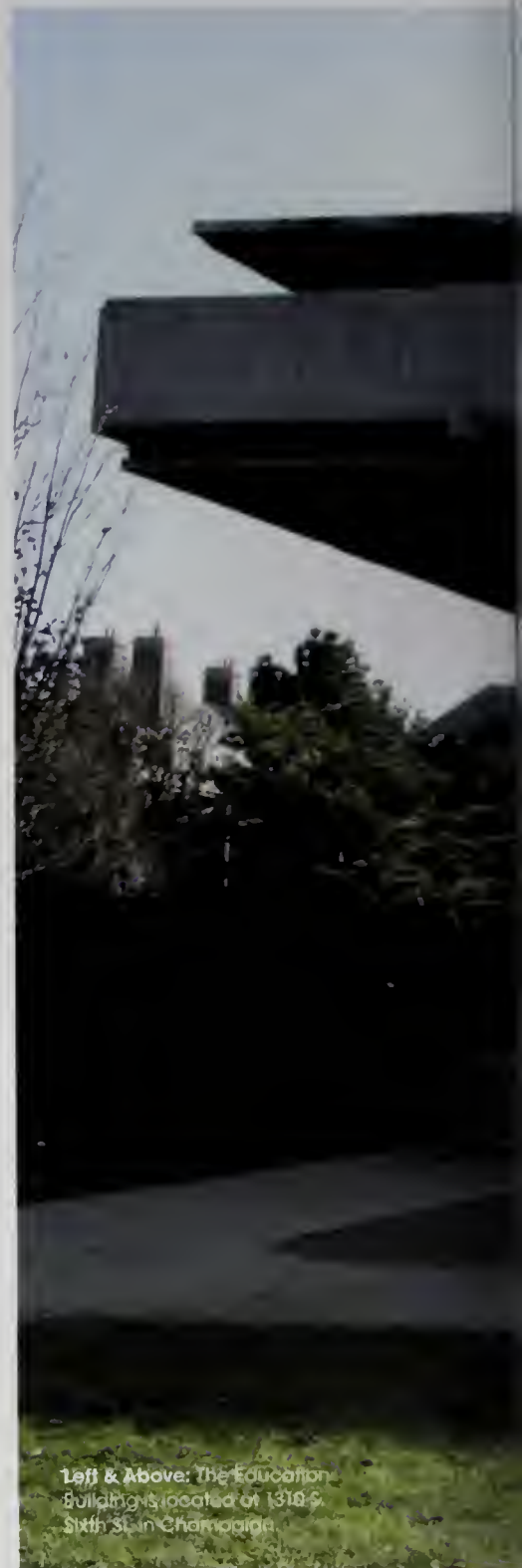
Mary Kalantzis

## major buildings

Education Building

## academic departments

- Curriculum & Instruction
- Educational Organization & Leadership
- Educational Policy Studies
- Educational Psychology
- Human Resource Education
- Special Education



Left & Above: The Education Building is located at 1310 S. Sixth St. in Champaign.







## INTERVIEW WITH CHANDANA JASTI: SENIOR IN LAS & MINOR IN EDUCATION

**Why did you decide to become an education major?**

CJ: I've always liked education. I've had experiences in teaching since high school. I wanted to learn how to be a more effective teacher.

**What kind of material do you learn?**

CJ: We learn curriculum and instruction. This includes how to design lesson plans, how to take diversity into account, educational psychology, which helps us better understand how students think, and lots of other things. We also take special education classes that teach us how to prepare for students with special needs.

**How does student teaching prepare you to teach your own classroom??**

CJ: We observe schools in Urbana-Champaign each semester and during our final semester, we get to student teach. Student teaching puts you right there in the classroom. It prepares you because you're actually teaching and getting to know the students and other faculty.

INTERVIEW BY JAMIE JOHN  
PHOTOS BY LINDSAY OLSON



# student becomes teacher

EDUCATION MAJORS PUT TO THE TEST  
LEADING IN REAL-LIFE CLASSROOMS

**S**tudent teaching is one of many reasons why students majoring in the college of education find their program of study different from other majors on this campus. Unlike majors in which an internship is not mandatory, education majors are required to have hands-on experience before they graduate.

"Student teaching is a great experience because it is very similar to running your own classroom," said Lindsey Falkanger, a senior in Liberal Arts and Sciences and working toward a minor in secondary education. "A lot of times, my cooperating teacher leaves the room so I can get a better feel of what it is like to have the class to myself. I don't think there's any better preparation."

As a semester-long requirement for most education majors at the University, student teachers work with schools all over the state.

Falkanger is student teaching seventh-graders back in her hometown for the spring semester. After three weeks into student teaching, she said that the biggest challenge was learning the routine activities of the school, such as issuing a tardy and the procedure for making copies.

"Everyone else in the school is used to the routine by now, so it's difficult coming in halfway through the year," she said.

To prepare herself for student teaching, Falkanger tutored at Bottenfield Elementary School in Champaign. "It's a good experience to have before student teaching because it allows you to work with students one-on-one."



Andrea Nevoral, sophomore in education, is also tutoring in preparation for her student teaching. Working once a week at Thomas Paine Elementary School in Champaign, she also worked at a children's camp every summer for six years.

"I've worked with kids since I was 13," said Nevoral. "I like hearing their ideas and opinions because they give you a unique perspective you wouldn't think of. You can learn as much from them as they can from you."

Student teaching gives students the opportunity to put classroom experience from the Univer-





Above: Kate, a senior in Education, pauses a homework assignment back to a student in her Urbana High School classroom. Kate lets the students study for a few minutes before their quiz. Kate is studying Special Education and hopes to get a job as a teacher in that field after she graduates.

sity to work in a real-world setting.

"I'm really excited to bring lesson plans and actually use them and I'm excited to work with my cooperating teachers because I feel I can gain so much advice from their personal experience," she said.

For Falkanger, the best part of student teaching is the realization that her lesson made sense to the children.

"There is so much preparation that goes into student teaching, so it's really rewarding to know that you did well and that the kids are getting it,"

Falkanger said.

While Nevoral still has some time before she gets to student teach, it is something that she is thinking about now.

"All my work experience is with kids," said Nevoral. "I'm nervous for student teaching, but by that point I'll be ready."

STORY BY SARA KESSINGER  
PHOTO BY LINDSAY OLSON



# college of engineering



## facts & statistics

Total enrollment: 7,411

Undergraduate: 5,104

Graduate: 2,307

Faculty and Staff: 434

## dean of college

Ilesanmi Adesida

## major buildings

Engineering Hall

Everitt Laboratory

Grainger Library

Siebel Center

## academic departments

- Aerospace
- Agricultural
- Bioengineering
- Chemical & Molecular
- Civil & Environmental
- Computer Science
- Electrical & Computer
- Industrial & Enterprise Systems Engineering
- Materials Science & Engineering
- Mechanical Science & Engineering
- Nuclear, Plasma & Radiological
- Physics



**Left:** Engineering Hall, located at 1308 Green St., is home to the College of Engineering faculty and classes.

*Photo by L. Olson*

**Above:** "Grainger Bob," as he is informally known on campus, sits outside Grainger Library on the Bardeen Quad. *Photo by D. Hallander*





## INTERVIEW WITH JIE CHOU: JUNIOR IN ENGINEERING

**How is engineering different from the other colleges?**

JC: The average workload is more and much harder. One has to think outside the box to be an engineer. Problems are usually not plug in the numbers but you have to derive a solution based on the concepts and fundamental knowledge from many core classes.

**Why do you think the engineering program at U of I is one of the best?**

JC: U of I has a long history in engineering. The professors are dedicated and the quality of the program is second to none. Many of the classes teach about the most recent developments in technology and keep the students up to date with the world.

INTERVIEW BY JAMIE JOHN  
PHOTOS BY LINDSAY OLSON  
DAN HOLLANDER







# open to innovation

ENGINEERING OPEN HOUSE ALLOWS GLIMPSE AT EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES

**R**eady, set, innovate. The innovation, creativity, and ingeniousness of the Engineering students in the College of Engineering at Illinois were the centerpiece of the Engineering Open House.

This year's open house, entitled "Inspiring Innovation" featured the work of students at the University of Illinois, as well as the work of students in middle school and high school. Several company sponsors such as Accenture and Abbott also had kiosks to distribute information and pamphlets to interested visitors.

Engineering Open House was coordinated by Jason Chang. Chang, a senior in Engineering, worked hard to make the event the true success that it was. He said that some of the must-see events of the Open House included the Rube Goldberg High School Design Competition, the Middle School Cardboard Car Competition, as well as the Jerry Sanders Robotic Design Competition.

Chang also said that all of the exhibits are different and amazing in their own ways, so they could all be deemed "must-sees." However, the two buildings that have groups who win the most awards every year are the Siebel Center and the Materials Science & Engineering Building.

With so much to see in so little time, one of the best ways to see it all this year was by taking an Engineering Open House tours. Guided by U of I student volunteers, tours met near the Area 51 commissary and took visitors to some of the most popular exhibits and attractions.

If the tour schedule was not suitable, visitors also had the option of giving themselves self-guided tours. These self-guided tours included a map and even a list of the must-see attractions. Young engineers and kids alike found these self-guided tours rewarding as they looked for clues as part of the EOH Scavenger Hunt.



The Beckman Institute hosted their own open house on the same weekend as the Engineering Open House. The Institute opened its doors during its bicentennial event to visitors wanting to see what its like to get an MRI and discover what is happening on the North end of the Bardeen Quad.

The Dean of the College of Engineering, Ilesanmi Adesida, was available for meeting sessions for visitors and admitted students during the Open House the College was hosting.

In a letter published in the Visitors Guide, he commented that "In classrooms and labs across campus, you will find engineering students pushing the limits of tools and technology to pursue new ideas and solutions...You will learn about the science and engineering behind every day products, see how engineering is used to solve problems, and catch a glimpse of emerging innovations in technology."

STORY BY **ADAM SWIATEK**  
PHOTOS BY **BLAKE MILLER**



**Opposite top:** Brad Heinecke, senior, and Mike Okelman, graduate student, both in Engineering, make pressed clay molds.

**Opposite bottom right:** Jan Childers, freshman in LAS, watches Mike Brendel a freshman in Engineering create a boat out of aluminum foil at the water lab.

**Top:** Ashley Wise, a Developmental Engineer, explains his light inventions.

RETROGRADE  
engineering open house



# college of fine & applied arts

## **facts & statistics**

Total enrollment: 2,818

Undergraduate: 1,935

Graduate: 883

Faculty & Staff: 470

## **dean of college**

Michael T. McCulley

## **major buildings**

Architecture Building

Art & Design Building

Krannert Center for the Performing Arts

Music Building

Temple Hoyne Buell Hall



## **academic departments**

- Architecture
- Art Education
- Crafts
- Graphic Design
- History of Art
- Industrial Design
- Painting
- Photography
- Sculpture
- Dance
- Landscape Architecture
- Music
- Theatre
- Urban Planning





**Opposite:** The Art & Design Building is located at 408 E Peabody Dr  
**Above:** Kothleen Keogh, senior in FAA, works on a project in her metals studio class



## INTERVIEW WITH VIVIAN ZAPATA: JUNIOR IN FAA

**How is the College of Fine and Applied Arts different from the other colleges?**

VZ: I think FAA encourages students to express themselves. In painting, you learn the technical skills and foundation the first two years, so when you reach junior and senior year, you can funnel your own voice and expression. It's exciting to get that opportunity to shine.

**What kind of material do you learn?**

VZ: Freshman year, you're exposed to different areas of art foundations like texture or drawing. Sophomore year, you still learn how to use different materials. During junior and senior year, you can do your own research and find your own interests. Right now, I'm working on collages and photo manipulation software.

INTERVIEW BY JAMIE JOHN  
 PHOTOS BY LINDSAY OLSON





**Opposite:** Mondy Schwartz, junior in FAA, and Steve Kluempers, graduate student in FAA, hang Chinese paper lanterns for a photoshoot in the Studio Problems class.

**Above:** Aliso Augello, junior Steve Kluempers, graduate student, Mondy Schwartz, junior, Troy Hoyes, senior, and Kotee Hendrickson, senior, all in FAA, gather around to look at the first polaroid of the shot to assess the lighting and exposure.



# still in the studio

FINE ARTS MAJORS SPEND HOURS PERFECTING TEDIOUS PROJECTS

many architecture and art students enjoy the unique aspects of their major, which include not having to work toward a grade, using class time to work on their homework, and having many of the same friends in all of their classes. However, this enjoyment comes with a price.

Before a project is due, architecture and art students spend many consecutive days and long hours inside a studio. Although students work at their own pace, studios tend to fill up five to six days before a project is due.

"People survive on Pop-tarts, coffee, and Red Bull," said Dan Audette, senior in FAA.

Architecture students begin to work in the studio building models during their sophomore year. Surviving the pressures of the first year in the studio, many juniors and seniors begin to enjoy their time spent working in the studio. Friendships are formed among the students after spending so much time together.

Groups of 15 students per studio meet three times a week for four hours, during which students are able to spend one-on-one time with their professors. Rather than working for a good grade on an assignment, students build their portfolios, filling them with the projects they worked on in class.

Similarly, many art and design majors do not find a chance to sleep when they have a project due. Time spent in the studio constitutes the bulk of the work for a student in art and design.

Laura Beard, senior in FAA, said, "You are always working until the last minute with a project. Even if you are rarely given another month, you



will still be working until the last minute because a project never seems finished."

Students work continuously toward perfecting their portfolio, even after they have turned them in for class. The portfolio essentially replaces the student's GPA, because although art and design students do receive a letter grade on a project, the means of achieving a grade is rather subjective. Professors take into consideration the effort put into a project, and as seniors, students are able to get to know their professors personally and receive feedback from them.

Although students in architecture and art and design are able to spend class time among their peers and do not have to take final exams, they experience a trade-off when they spend extensive amounts of time in the studio.

STORY BY SUKLIMA ROY  
PHOTOS BY JESSICA ELMORE



# college of liberal arts & sciences

## **facts & statistics**

Total Enrollment: 17,762

Undergraduates: 15,121

Graduates: 2,641

Faculty & Staff: 685

## **dean of college**

Sarah C. Mangelsdorf

## **academic departments**

- Biological, Physical, & Quantitative Sciences
- Humanities & Arts
- Social & Behavioral Sciences
- Interdisciplinary Programs



**Opposite:** Students sit in the back of a large LAS lecture in Foellinger Auditorium.

*Photo by B. Miller*

**Below:** Lincoln Hall serves as the home of the LAS Office.

*Photo by L. Olson*

## **major buildings**

- Altgeld Hall
- Chemistry Annex
- English Building
- Foellinger Auditorium
- Foreign Languages Building
- Lincoln Hall
- Natural History Building
- Noyes Laboratory
- Roger Adams Laboratory
- Spurlock Museum





## INTERVIEW WITH MARK AGUIRRE: FRESHMAN IN LAS

**How is the College of LAS different from the other colleges on campus?**

MA: Because it's so large, I feel that it's able to manage all the general areas of study, but yet it can focus on something you like and something that caters to your needs and strengths.

**Why did you become an Economics major?**

MA: Economics is a very interesting subject and its very flexible because you can use economics in almost every aspect of the business world. Economics is very broad.

**What types of material do you learn in classes for your major?**

MA: We learn about mechanisms in our world's economy and how it can influence a person's life.

**How do you think the variety of majors in the College of LAS is helpful to students?**

MA: It goes over a broad range of majors, so you can go from physics to philosophy to biology. Because you get a taste of all those studies, it helps you to figure out what you want to do, especially if you are an undecided major.

INTERVIEW BY JAMIE JOHN  
PHOTOS BY BLAKE MILLER  
LINDSAY OLSON





# view from within

HUMAN GENOMICS BUILDING & DORRIS KELLEY HALL ADD MODERN FLAIR TO CAMPUS



**W**ith the 2006-2007 school year came new additions to campus, most notably the Alice Campbell Alumni Center, the Institute for Genomic Biology facility, and Doris Kelley Christopher Hall.

Named after one of its major contributors, the Alice Campbell Alumni Center was officially opened in May 2006 after two years of construction. This \$16 million, three-story building is located near the Hallene Gateway Plaza. It houses the offices of the University's Alumni Association, as well as a library, conference rooms, lounges, and an outdoor patio.

The Alice Campbell Alumni Center is the first building of its kind on campus because it's specifically built to host alumni events for the 550,000 Illinois alumni around the world.

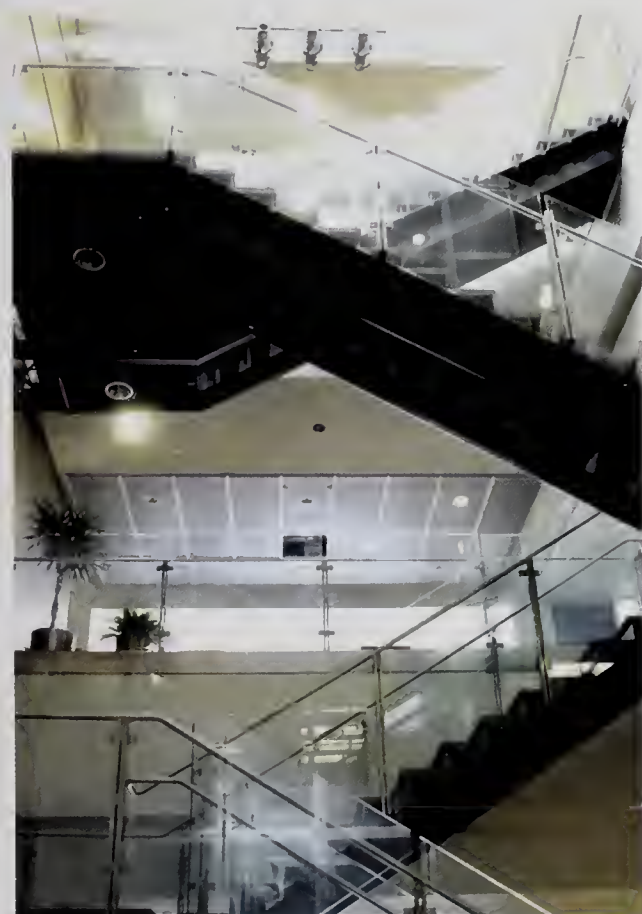
"I think it's great that the University has a place where alumni can gather. It shows that the



school supports and values our alumni's contributions. Hopefully, the alumni center will encourage other alumni to reconnect back with the school," said Neetha Mamootile, junior in LAS.

Another addition, the Institute for Genomic Biology facility, was completed in November 2006 after almost three years of construction. This \$75 million building will be home to research in genomic biology that will concentrate on solving issues in agriculture, medicine, and the environment. It will hold high-tech equipment such as a microfabrication lab and microscopy suite. The University hopes that this facility will attract considerable funding for research, as well as accomplished scientists.

"The Institute for Genomic Biology will be helpful to science majors because we can see first-hand how research is done using the latest



technology. It can help us better understand concepts and maybe even encourage us to pursue a career in that area," said Jibi Issac, junior in LAS. "It will also give us a chance to learn from experts in this field, which will increase the value of our degree."

On September 14, 2006, Doris Kelley Christopher Hall was dedicated. Named after an alum and founder of The Pampered Chef, Ltd., this building houses the Department of Human and Community Development and the Family Resiliency Program.

The Family Resiliency Program supports research and education that can help families overcome obstacles and stressors that they may experience. To enhance the research, Christopher Hall includes a Family Observation Suite, which mirrors an actual home where families can participate in studies.

"Faculty and graduate students work with the community and conduct a lot of research in Christopher Hall, so it gives the program a good name and gives us credibility," said Jillian John, junior in ACES.

**Opposite top:** Round Table at the Alice Campbell Alumni Center.

**Opposite bottom:** Mural and set up inside the Dorris Kelley building.

**Top:** Jenny Christie and Megan Maultan, sophomores in LAS, stand in front of the new Dorris Kelley building.

**Center:** View from second floor of Human Genomics Building.

**Left:** Stairs inside the Human Genomics Building.

STORY BY JAMIE JOHN  
PHOTOS BY BLAKE MILLER





# put to the test

LIBRARIES & COFFEESHOPS FILL UP DURING FINALS WEEK

during finals, the University of Illinois campus is turned inside out—the Undergrad library is packed, a table cannot be found in the Union and Starbucks has a constant line.

Many students choose to study at the Undergrad library, where there are quiet, low-level floors as well as group-work cubicles. Students are able to reserve rooms at Grainger Library for their per-

sonal study use. At the Union, there are both quiet study rooms and various lounges, or the Courtyard Cafe for students who need background noise.

"A group of friends go with me to the Vending Room, where we study for anatomy," said Kristin Imburgia, senior in Applied Health Sciences. "We can all work together on memorizing the parts of the body but aren't cramped in someone's apartment."





During finals week, the Undergraduate and Grainger libraries are open 24 hours, making it seem as if some students actually move in to the libraries when they pack lunches and bring blankets.

"I like to bring my toaster along," said Mike Manious, junior in LAS. "Pop-Tarts tend to keep me going, but only when they're hot."

Moonstruck Chocolate Cafe and Starbucks Coffee also are quite popular, as students study late into the evening. Some stores, such as Starbucks, extend their hours during finals week in order to accommodate the late night crowd of students needing a late night caffeine fix to keep their eyes and books open.

There are a lucky few with an easy finals schedule or just need a break from studying, the Quad is a great place to sleep, relax or play Frisbee with some friends.

"I finished my exams really early, but don't graduate until Saturday, so I'm spending the week hanging out with my friends before leaving for the real world," said Molly Sweeney, senior in Applied Health Sciences.

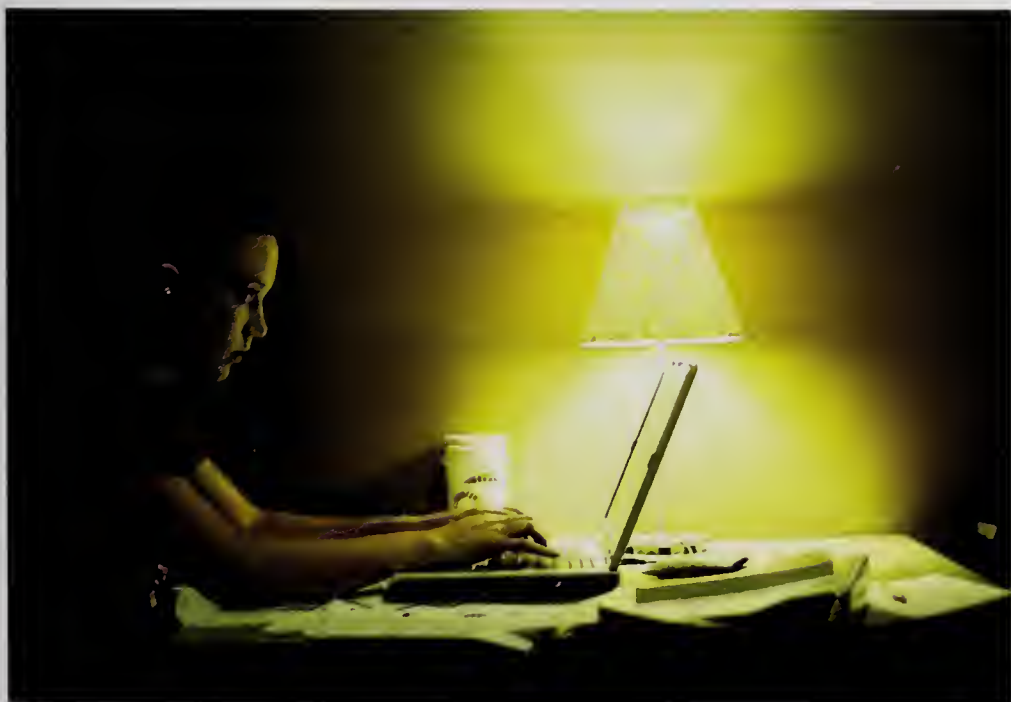
The Midnight Breakfast in the dorms is also a favorite and kicks off finals week with pancakes, eggs, French toast, and other similar breakfast foods.

No matter what you choose to do during finals week, there are always options. The bars tend to not have cover and sometimes have no line.

"There have been a lot of bar crawls this week," Sweeney said. "I've noticed t-shirts of every color all down Green Street."

There are always deals going on with local food places and usually you can get some free stuff on the quad. Good luck, study hard and try to have a little fun!

STORY BY **DANIELLE URBAN**  
PHOTOS BY **TOM ROOT**  
**BLAKE MILLER**



**Opposite:** Students study at Grainger Library on Reading Day, the day before finals week begins. *Photo by T. Root*

**Left:** Emmo Hunter, sophomore in LAS, studies at Espresso Royale for her early morning final. *Photo by B. Miller*



# ceremony of commencement

MEMBERS OF THE CLASS OF 2007 RECEIVE DIPLOMAS, CELEBRATE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

d onning ceremonial caps and gowns, graduates converged at Assembly Hall on Sunday, May 13, to formalize their exodus from the University. Chancellor Richard Herman, President B. Joseph White, and guest commencement speaker and Youtube.com co-founder Jaweb Karim were on hand for the event.

After a long list of awards, Karim, lightened the mood by integrating inspiration and popular culture into his commencement address. Using a Youtube favorite as an example, Karim emphasized the ease and interest of concept developed by internet sensation Matt Harding. Harding, he explained, dances in locations around the world and posts video of it on the popular video site. The address expressed how this was an excellent example of a taking a small but brilliant idea and making it happen.

Awards from this year's ceremony included: the Alumni Achievement Award, given to Phil Francis, the current C.E.O. of Petsmart, for his work in the expansion of Petsmart.

Guest Commencement Speaker, Jaweb Karim, accepted the Chancellor's first No Boundaries Award.

A special Chancellor's Medallion awarded to Professor and Director Emeritus of the Division of Rehabilitation-Education Services, Timothy Nugent for his work in making the campus more accessible.

STORY BY **BLAKE STUBBS**  
PHOTOS BY **PATRICK TRAYLOR**







**Opposite:** University of Illinois President B. Joseph White shakes the hand of a doctoral graduate.

**Above:** Students sing the Alma Mater of the U of I Commencement ceremony of Assembly Hall.

**Left:** The combined choir of Women's and Men's Glee Club and the Block Chorus performs of the U of I Commencement ceremony.



RETRO  
ACTIVE ● ● ● ●

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FIGHTING ILLINI

# FOOTBALL

## ZOOK AND CO. SHOW PROMISE, LOOK TO BRIGHT FUTURE

Fifteen football minutes into Homecoming on Oct. 7, it looked like Illinois was on the verge of a rare feat.

One week earlier, the Illini stunned Michigan State by handing the Spartans a loss in East Lansing—and picking up their first Big Ten road win since 2002. Now the Illini led the Hoosiers 25-7, and it seemed impossible that the lead might slip away.

Slowly, though, Indiana fought back. Illinois scored on every drive in the first half, but it hardly made a gasp at scoring beyond that. What one week earlier had been talk of a bowl game became disappointment over another blow.

"What happened today was a brutal, tragic, awful lesson," head coach Ron Zook said after the Indiana game. "It's a great lesson, but it's awfully painful."

The 2006 season was a long lesson for the Illini, who once again featured one of the youngest teams in college football. While freshman quarterback Juice Williams quickly became the offensive leader and freshman cornerback Vontae Davis showed there is lasting strength in the secondary, Illinois still had a long way to go before bowl talk could be justified.

"One of the great things about football is you're going to go through adversity," Zook said early in the season. "That's one of the things I told our team all year. There's going to be adversity, and how we handle it is going to show who we are."

In 2006, Illinois football was characterized by a much-improved defense and an offense that

couldn't seem to put the pieces together. Junior linebacker

J Leman and junior safeties Kevin Mitchell and Justin Sanders seemed to knock down tackles like other people kick pop cans, while Da-

vis added consistent depth. Fellow senior corner Alan Ball was skinny and strong, laying out opponents with ease.

"(This spring) it felt like Alan was beginning to come on and be a Big Ten-type defensive back," Zook said before the season started.

On offense, Illinois found two plans that worked: launching long passes and running trick plays. Williams' shocking arm strength — once tamed enough that receivers could actually catch his balls — turned into the spectacle to be seen, as game after game he hit receivers like Kyle Hudson deep in the red zone.

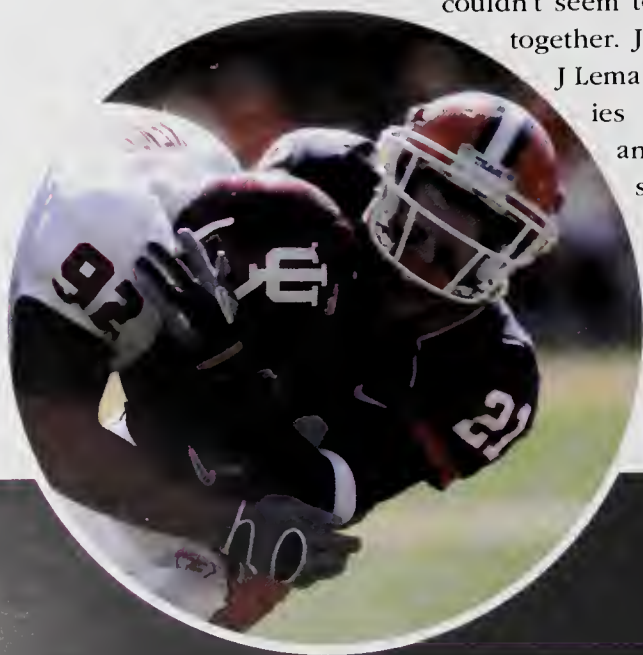
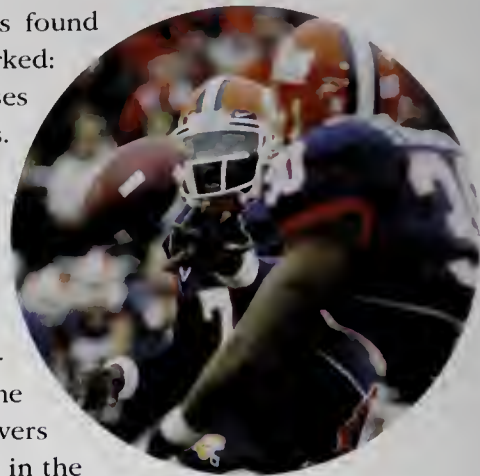
"I saw him one day at practice launch an 80-yard bomb into the end zone," senior running back Pierre Thomas said. "A lot of people talk about that on his highlight tape, but when I saw that in person, I was like, 'Man, this kid has an arm.' He's amazing."

Illinois began a plan to shake things up after the season opener against Eastern Illinois. Zook was so impressed by the Panthers' rugby punting that he recruited former quarterback and current junior receiver DaJaun Warren to try it out. In future games, Warren would throw passes in trick plays, prompting claims he would soon be starting at every position.

But fun change-ups and a fresh-faced roster were not enough. There would be no bowl game, no winning record. There would only be hope for next season.

"Anybody can beat anybody. If you win one game you are not the world champions," Leman said. "We have to come out and be consistent every game."

STORY BY COURTNEY LINEHAN  
PHOTOS BY BECK DIEFENBACH  
JOSH BIRNBAUM

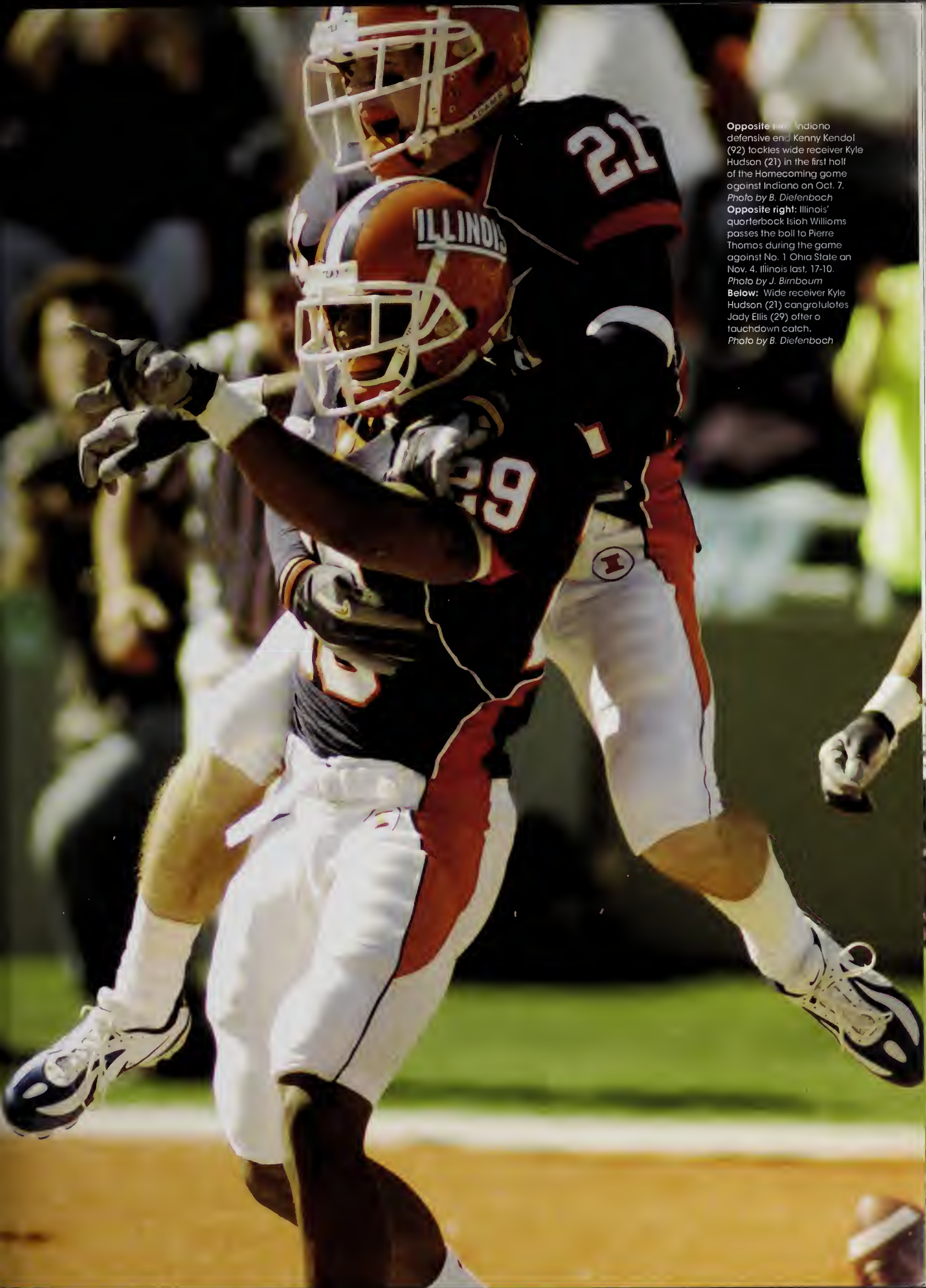


REACTIVE FOOTBALL

## THE SCOREBOARD

42-17	Eastern Illinois
0-33	Rutgers
21-31	Syracuse
7-24	Iowa
23-20	Michigan State
32-34	Indiana
17-20	Ohio
12-26	Penn State
24-30	Wisconsin
10-17	Ohio State
31-42	Purdue
16-27	Northwestern



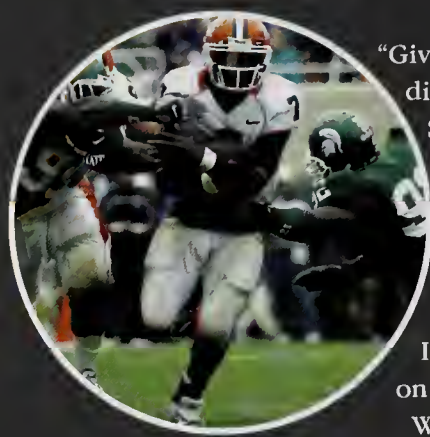


**Opposite left:** Indiana defensive end Kenny Kendol (92) tackles wide receiver Kyle Hudson (21) in the first half of the Homecoming game against Indiana on Oct. 7. *Photo by B. Diefenboch*  
**Opposite right:** Illinois' quarterback Isiah Williams passes the ball to Pierre Thomas during the game against No. 1 Ohio State on Nov. 4. Illinois lost, 17-10. *Photo by J. Birnboum*  
**Below:** Wide receiver Kyle Hudson (21) congratulates Jody Ellis (29) after a touchdown catch. *Photo by B. Diefenboch*



## ATHLETE PROFILE

# JUICE WILLIAMS



"Give us Juice," the thinning Memorial Stadium crowd chanted as Illinois trailed Syracuse 21-7 on Sept. 16.

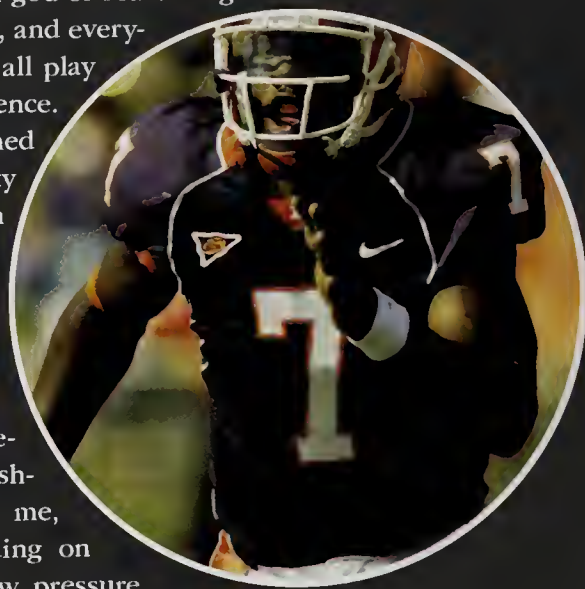
And Juice is what they got. Williams became Illinois' starter after the third game of his college career. He struggled against a ranked Iowa team, then stunned fans as he led the Illini to a road win over Michigan State on Sept. 30.

Williams said he did not want to be seen as the savior of a fractured football program, but for many in the Illini Nation, the freshman quarterback symbolized hope as the signs added up that another losing season would mar the record books.

"I don't want to be treated differently because I'm a hot recruit," Williams says. "I don't want to be treated like some football god or something."

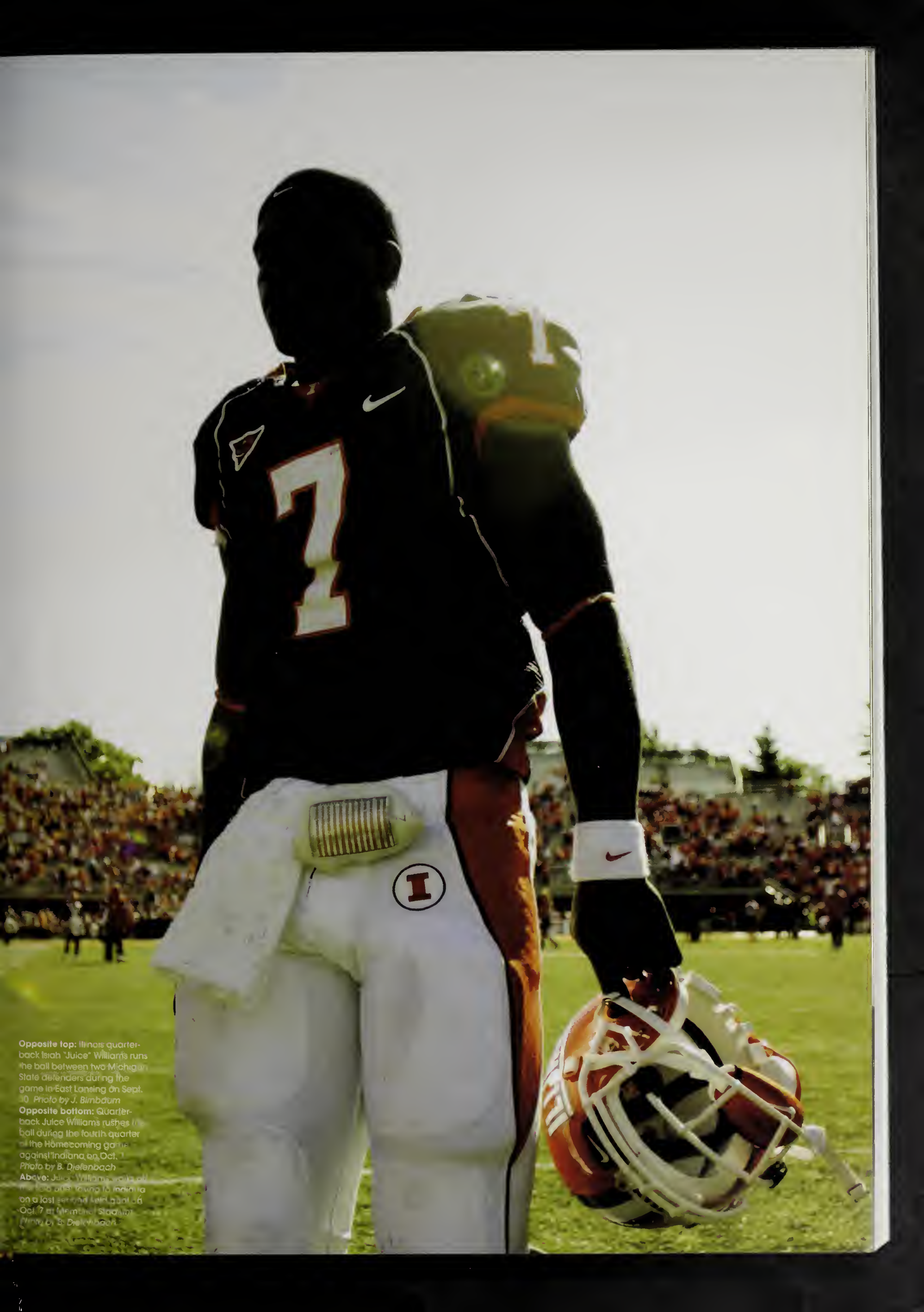
But Williams is different, and everybody who saw Illinois football play in 2006 could see the difference. Time after time, he launched 65-yard passes like fraternity brothers toss a football on the front lawn. Over and over, he squeezed past defenders and snuck out of pressure situations, rushing for first downs.

"I've got teammates depending on me, other freshmen players depending on me, and all those fans depending on me," Williams says. "I know pressure like that can make me or break me, and I'm up for the challenge."



STORY BY **COURTNEY LINEHAN**  
PHOTO BY **JOSH BIRNBAUM**  
**BECK DIEFENBACH**





**Opposite top:** Illinois quarterback Isaiah "Juice" Williams runs the ball between two Michigan State defenders during the game in East Lansing on Sept. 30. Photo by J. Bimbaum.

**Opposite bottom:** Quarterback Juice Williams rushes the ball during the fourth quarter of the Homecoming game against Indiana on Oct. 7. Photo by B. Diefenbach.

**Above:** Juice Williams walks off the field after losing to Indiana on a last-second field goal on Oct. 7 at Memorial Stadium. Photo by B. Diefenbach.







# VARSITY CHEERLEADING

SQUAD RALLIES SCHOOL SPIRIT AT SPORTING EVENTS

Two and a half hours before football games, Illini students fill campus bars and stadium parking lots preparing for the game with beer and barbecue. Before basketball games they line up around the Assembly Hall, down jackets layered over orange sweatshirts as they anxiously wait for the arena's doors to open.

For Illinois cheerleaders, however, the two and a half hours before each game are filled with preparations for the day's performance.

2006-07 captain Drew Sullivan says there's a lot more to cheerleading than shaking pompoms and yelling into megaphones. Sullivan said the team logs as many as 25 hours a week between practice, weights and performances.

"We practice three nights a week, usually two and a half hours a night, then we're mandatory lifting two days a week, a lot of the guys lift three," Sullivan said. "In a week's time we can put anywhere from 10 hours of practice and weight lifting to 25 hours depending on if we have pep rallies, parades, PR events."

Cheerleading is considered a varsity sport at Illinois, and squad members' lives often parallel those of the typical athlete. New members have mandatory study hours at Irwin Academic Center, then there are workouts, lifting and game days.

They also frequently visit area nursing homes and hospitals.

"November's probably our busiest month," Sullivan said. "If you look at the schedule, I think we have a basketball game every three days, then on top of that we have football games."

"Some days we're gone Saturday at the game, come home Sunday, have a basketball game, have Monday off, have a game Tuesday."

Illini cheerleaders travel to every away football and men's basketball game, sending three girls and three guys to each football road trip. Sullivan said one of the perks of the job is getting to travel with the team on trips to places like California and New York City.

"It's awesome," Sullivan said. "My sophomore year I got to travel with the basketball team to the Final Four, and it was amazing. When the football team played Rutgers, we went down to New York City for the night. It's tons of fun."

Sullivan said he often runs into stereotypes about cheerleaders, but only because few people really understand what happens behind the scenes.

"I don't think a lot of people realize that it's as athletic as it is," Sullivan said. "Most all the guys are former football players or wrestlers. We have a couple guys who were cheerleaders in high school, but for the most part it's guys who want to stay in shape."

Sullivan said one of the hardest parts of the job is rallying school spirit when the Illini are losing, like when the football team fell 33-0 at Rutgers. But knowing that their efforts are appreciated helps make it easier.

"Sometimes it's tough, especially when the team is losing," Sullivan said. "Rutgers, that was a tough game, but they appreciate us being there."



STORY BY COURTNEY LINEHAN  
PHOTOS BY ADAM BABCOCK  
BECK DIEFENBACH



WOMEN'S

# VOLLEYBALL

NEW-LOOK ILLINI MAKE THE MOST OF SIX NEW PLAYERS

The Illinois volleyball team made the most out of the 2006 season, despite injuries to a number of key players. Heading into October, the Illini

were an impressive 11-3, with a solid 2-2 record in the Big Ten. Illinois was 16-15 in 2005, but graduation and injuries left the 2006 roster with several holes. As a result, Illini head coach Don Hardin added six new players and his new-look Illini have been winning since day one.

The Illini opened the season in late August with the State Farm Illini Classic, a tournament hosted by the Illini at Huff Hall. Illinois rolled off three consecutive wins during the weekend event, beating Illinois State, Wisconsin-Milwaukee and Winthrop. In addition to the team's obvious tournament success, three Illini players were selected to the All-Tournament team. Junior middle blocker Vicki Brown was voted tournament MVP, while sophomore outside hitter Kayani Turner and freshman libero Ashley Edinger also earned All-Tourney honors. After sweeping the Classic, the Illini continued their hot start by winning three more matches and the Marquette Kick-Off Tournament title the following week. Once again, Brown was named tournament MVP; and, once again, she was joined on the All-Tourney list alongside Edinger and Turner. But,

unlike the previous week, Brown and her Illini teammates were accompanied by sophomore setter Lizzie Bazzetta.

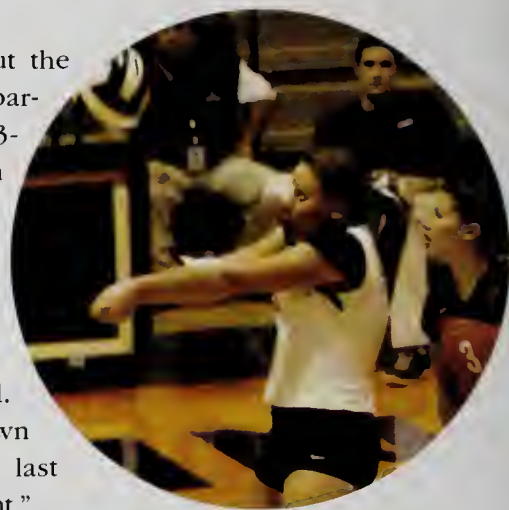
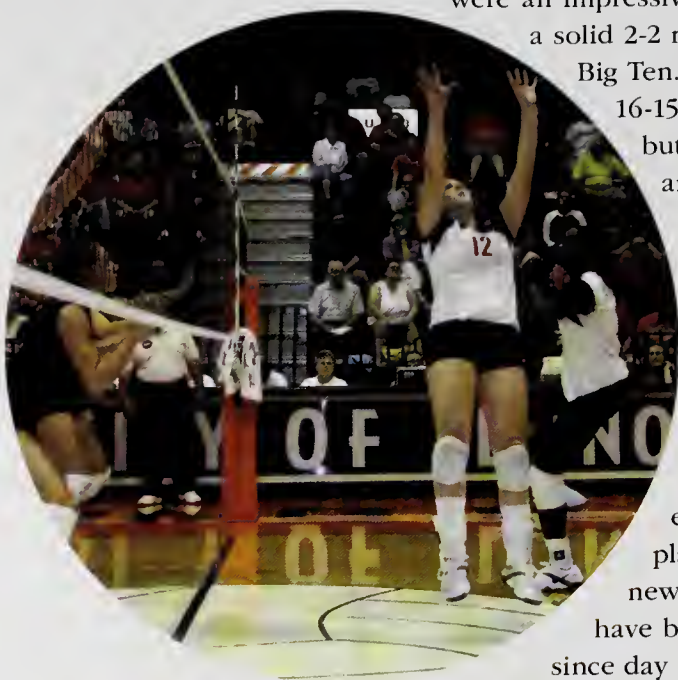
"It's great for us just to play well and win a tournament," Hardin said afterwards. "But for us to also have four players — including our setter and our libero — make the All-Tourney team is really a credit to our team and how they played."

The Illini finally suffered their first loss Sept. 9, when they lost a thrilling five-game match to Wichita State during the GlaxoSmithKline Invitational in Chapel Hill, N.C. The Illini finished second in the event, and after a win over Dayton at Huff Hall, entered the conference season a spectacular, 9-1.

Unfortunately for the Illini, the Big Ten season didn't begin nearly as well as the non-conference season. After a pair of 3-0 losses to Minnesota and Wisconsin, the Illini found themselves in last place. The poor start left the team disappointed, but Hardin's squad quickly regrouped with wins over Northwestern and Iowa. The victory over Iowa even propelled Bazzetta to win the Big Ten Defensive Player of the Week honor on Oct. 2.

The Illini closed out the season, blindsided by a barrage of injuries, with a 3-0 loss to Ohio State on Nov. 25, finishing the season with a 15-15 record (6-14 Big Ten).

"We could have really come apart down the stretch," Hardin said. "But the girls battled down to the last match, the last game, even the last point."

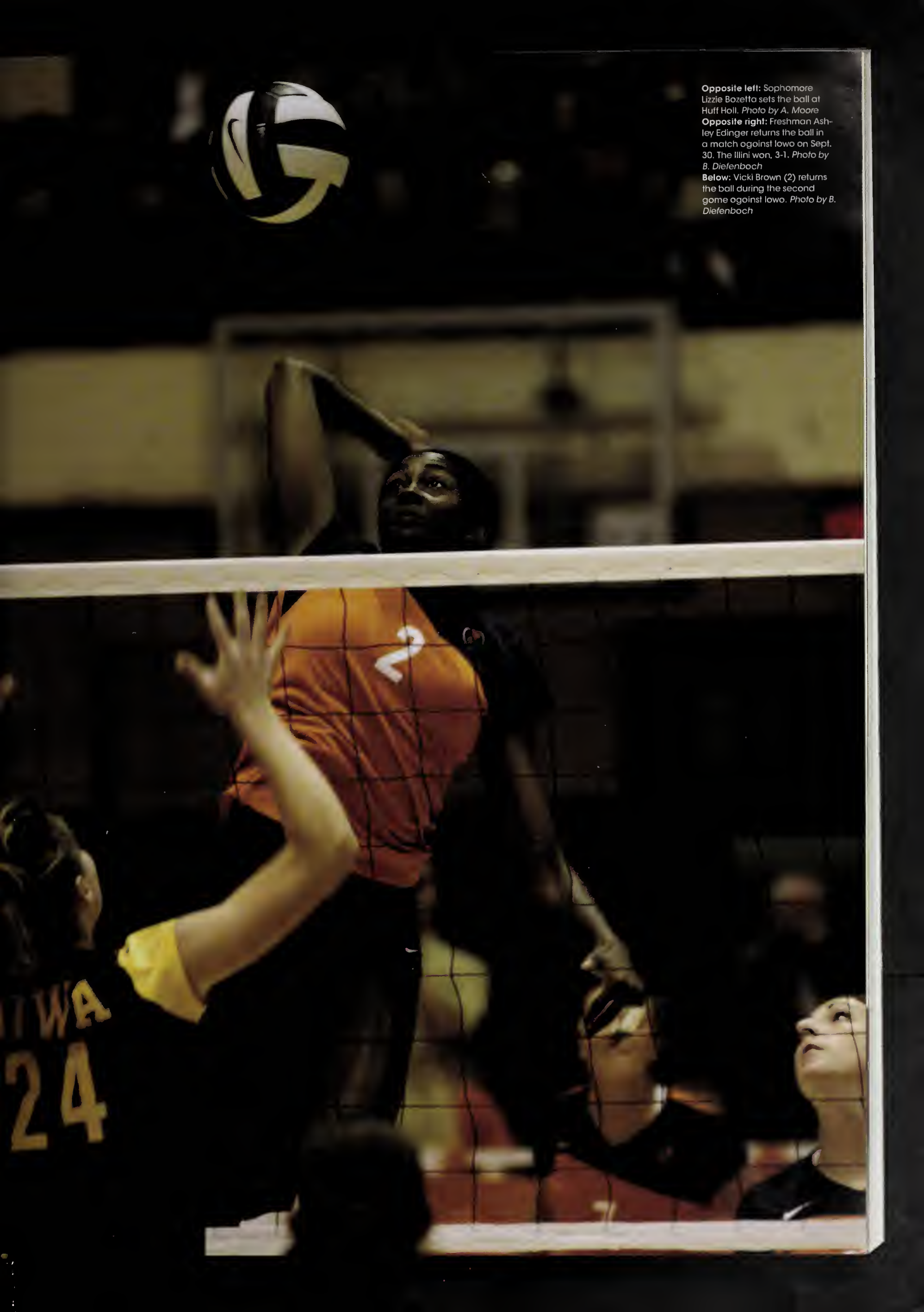


STORY BY LUCAS DEAL  
PHOTOS BY BECK DIEFENBACH  
AMELIA MOORE

## THE SCOREBOARD

Alumni Event	2-0
Illinois State	3-1
Winthrop	3-0
UW-Milwaukee	3-0
Mississippi	3-1
Marquette	3-0
Loyola Chicago	2-3
North Carolina	3-1
Wichita State	3-1
College of Charleston	0-3
Dayton	0-3
Wisconsin	3-0
Minnesota	3-1
Northwestern	0-3
Iowa	1-3
Michigan State	3-0
Michigan	0-3
Ohio State	0-3
Penn State	3-1
Purdue	0-3
Indiana	0-3
Michigan State	1-3
Northwestern	3-1
Iowa	0-3
Minnesota	1-3
Wisconsin	3-1
Indiana	0-3
Purdue	0-3
Penn State	0-3
Ohio State	0-3





**Opposite left:** Sophomore Lizzie Bozetta sets the ball at Huff Hall. *Photo by A. Moore*  
**Opposite right:** Freshman Ashley Edinger returns the ball in a match against Iowu on Sept. 30. The Illini won, 3-1. *Photo by B. Diefenboch*  
**Below:** Vicki Brown (2) returns the ball during the second game against Iowu. *Photo by B. Diefenboch*



# WOMEN'S

# SOCCER

## AFTER ROUGH START, ILLINI OVERCOME DIFFICULT SCHEDULE



The 2006 season marked the 10-year anniversary of the Illinois soccer program as an NCAA participant. The team entered the season with a lot of hype and high expectations after coming off a second-round loss in the NCAA tournament in 2005. Beginning the 2006 campaign, the Illini were ranked No. 13 in the country and voted second in the preseason Big Ten Coaches poll.

After a slow 3-3 start, and playing one of the most difficult schedules in the country, Illinois bounced back to win seven of its next nine games. The 1-0 win against Auburn on Sept. 10 gave the Illini their first win over a ranked opponent. Illinois continued its success, beating Utah at home, 4-1. On Oct. 1, the Illini came back from a two-goal deficit to beat the preseason No.1-ranked Nittany Lions for the second time in the program's history.

"They've played the schedule we've subjected them to and that's the biggest thing this team has done," head coach Janet Rayfield said. "We've gone on the road against some really top teams."

The 2006 season also marked the 100th career win for Rayfield and her 55th with the Illini. The win came in a 4-0 victory over Syracuse on Sept. 8 in Illinois' home opener with 935 fans in attendance — the fourth-largest crowd in the program's history.

Illinois' strength as a team was the diversity of the individual's personalities. Junior forward Ella Masar's ability to chase down any ball always impressed the crowd. Senior forward Jessica Bayne's strong foot came off the bench to give the Illini big goals when they were needed. Junior defender Mary Therese McDonnell shut down opponents and played all but two minutes in the team's first 13 games. Sophomore defender Jessica Levitt's

footwork and physical play always provided a spark.

Junior goalkeeper Lindsey Carstens returned to the net after missing the final five games of the 2005 season with a leg injury. Her experienced play in the net helped the Illini defense to five shutouts in the first 13 games.

"We've played the hardest schedule we've had at this University and that has prepared us to play in the Big Ten," Carstens said. "We're probably more prepared than we've ever been, and great things have come from it this season."

Another aspect of Illinois' team was its youth. Illinois boasted the ninth-best recruiting class in the nation and showed it off by consistently starting two freshmen, midfielder Jackie Santacaterina and forward Courtney Bell. Forward Chichi Nweke and defender Emily Pickard also saw a lot of minutes on the field. Nweke scored three goals in the win over Utah and was the team's leader in goals and points midway through the season.

With a strong mix of youth, experience, goal scorers, passers, defenders and players who could win the ball in the open field and in the air, the Illinois women's soccer team has established themselves as one of the most talented teams in the nation. And with Rayfield's program that continues to bring in and develop quality players, Illinois will be a force in the Big Ten for years to come.

"This program is on track to win a national championship and that is our goal," Rayfield said. "And we want to compete for one on a regular basis."

STORY BY **STEVE CONTORNO**  
PHOTOS BY **JOSH BIRNBAUM**  
**CHRISTINA LEUNG**



## THE SCOREBOARD

8-0	Ohio	2-1	Marquette	1-0	South Carolina	0-5	Missouri	0-3	Texas A&M	0-1	Texas	4-0	Syracuse	1-0	Auburn	1-2	Saint Louis	4-1	Utah	4-2	Wisconsin	2-0	Northwestern	3-2	Penn State	3-0	Minnesota	0-2	Ohio State	3-0	Michigan State	1-2	Michigan	2-0	Purdue	1-0	Indiana	1-0	Iowa	3-0	Wisconsin	1-0	Purdue	1-3	Penn State	2-0	Southwest Missouri State	4-1	Saint Louis	0-1	Florida State
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**Opposite left:** Illinois' Jessica Bayne tries to keep the ball away from Purdue's Loredana Rivera during a home game on Oct. 20. Illinois defeated No. 17-ranked Purdue, 2-0. Photo by J. Birnbaum  
**Opposite right:** Illinois' Ella Masar jumps into her teammates after a goal in the second half of its home game against Auburn on Sept. 10. Illinois won, 1-0. Photo by J. Birnbaum  
**Above:** Illinois' Ella Masar kicks the ball past Utah's Melissa Wayman at the Illinois Soccer Stadium on Sept. 17. Photo by C. Leung



MEN'S

## PROGRAM MOVES UP BIG TEN LADDER

It's what the men's cross country team and head coach Wendel McRaven had eagerly been awaiting for nearly a year: the anticipated return of redshirts Jason Bill, Trent Hoerr and Jon Houseworth to the Illini lineup.

McRaven's plan as the first year coach of the Illini in 2005 was simple. He wanted to develop the core of young talent he had, get a year of experience under their belts and then compliment them with Bill, Hoerr and Houseworth—seasoned veterans with postseason experience, who red-shirted in order to preserve their eligibility for the 2006 season.

For McRaven, the expectations were high. Bill, a two-time NCAA Championships qualifier, finished fourth at the NCAA Regional meet in 2004 and earned All-Region honors. Hoerr had a breakthrough season on the track last spring, securing a fourth-place finish in the 10,000-meters at the 2006 Big Ten Outdoor Championships.

And with such a pool of talent to pull from, the underclassmen have a number of mentors to learn from, McRaven said.

The freshman class is considered one of the best in recent memory. The first year standouts include Jeremy Stevens, Jacob Nachel and John Popejoy.

"We have seven pretty solid (freshmen) in uniform," McRaven said. "My experience though is that the guy you least expect to step up and be a superstar ends up being a superstar."

The men's cross country team opened the season with two home meets at its Arbo-r et um course

on Sept. 1 and Sept. 15. McRaven said he was pleased with the freshmen performances in both races and how they followed his race plan.

On Sept. 29, the Illini competed in the prestigious Notre Dame Invitational, finishing 11th out of 20 teams. In his season debut, Bill led the Illini with a time of 24:02 for the 8K race.

A 25-runner pile-up less than a quarter of a mile into the meet caused seven of the Illini's nine runners to hit the ground. They then found themselves at the back of the pack.

"You can say woe is me, or you can use it as motivation for the next time and see that it doesn't happen again," said McRaven of the pile-up.

McRaven said the Illini are a team looking to move up the ladder in the Big Ten. They were able to make strides in the right direction, earning a seventh-place finish at the NCAA Midwest Regionals on Nov. 11. Bill also qualified for the NCAA Championships, finishing in 119th place with a time of 32:46.

But every year a team needs to redefine itself, and right now, the Illini cross country program is still forming its identity.

"This program is going to jump leaps and bounds these next two years with the type of talented freshmen that we have," Houseworth said. "I think with the type of leadership that we can provide for them, they'll be ready to be that type of leader next year."



STORY BY **ERIN FOLEY**  
PHOTOS BY **JOSH BIRNBAUM**  
**CHRISTINA LEUNG**

## THE SCOREBOARD

N/A	Illini Open
1st	Illini Challenge
11th	Notre Dame Invitational
3rd	Saluki Invitational
15th	Pre-NCAA Invitational
8th	Big Ten Championships
7th	NCAA Midwest Regionals





**Opposite left:** Juniors Tim Kelley and Michael Kelly run side-by-side during the Illini Open, the cross country team's first race of the season on Sept. 1 at the UI Arboretum. *Photo by C. Leung*

**Opposite right:** The Illini dominate the annual "Pack-It-Up" Challenge on Sept. 15 at the UI Arboretum by sweeping the top seven overall finishes and capturing their second-consecutive title of the year. *Photo by C. Leung*

**Above:** Illinois' Justin Aronson and Mocij Sniogorski run during the Illini Open cross country meet at the Arboretum in Urbana on Sept. 1. *Photo by J. Birnbaum*



# WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

FIRST-EVER REGIONAL TITLE, FRESHMAN STANDOUT HIGHLIGHT SEASON

After finishing fifth at last year's NCAA Championships—the best-ever finish in program history—the Illinois women's cross country team entered the 2006 season with high expectations and a chip securely placed on their shoulders. Not losing any of the 2005 team to graduation, the Illini also added a number of highly recruited freshmen. They looked primed to easily surpass last season's finish. But getting the team to gel at the beginning of the year didn't come as easily as head coach Karen Harvey expected.

"When you have that many newcomers who do so well, people don't know what to think and they feel out of place," said Harvey of the eight new freshmen, who changed the dynamic of the team.

In every race this season, the Illini paled in comparison to the performances they had during 2005. After upsetting six nationally ranked opponents and coming in second at the Notre Dame Invite last year, the Illini could only muster a fifth-place showing.

"You can't come to Notre Dame and run solid as a team; you will get destroyed," Harvey said, emphasizing the need for an exceptional performance. "They needed a kick in the rear, and they got it."

Freshman Angela Bizzarri shattered the 5K freshman record by 22 seconds with her fifth-place performance and time of 16:56 at the Notre Dame Invite. Bizzarri owns both the Illinois 5K and 6K

freshman records, along with the fifth-fastest 5K finish in Illini history after her first two collegiate races.

Although Harvey continually says this year's team was

better than last and had more talent, the Illini still hadn't lived up to their potential through the Big Ten Championships on Oct. 29.

Illinois finished a disappointing fifth place. Before the Big Ten meet, Harvey said the team had found its team chemistry and that the Illini would need a solid race from an unexpected runner.

"As tight as this Big Ten race is, it will take one hero," Harvey said. "Someone's going to be a hero for one team and that's going to make the difference."

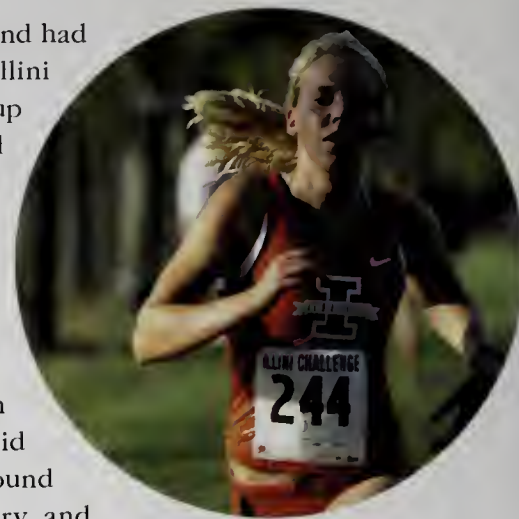
But other than Bizzarri's fifth-place finish (20:49), the rest of the eight Illini runners did not run as well as expected. Before the Big Ten meet, senior Cassie Hunt had high hopes.

"You're going to have to work really hard to get in that top 10, top 15," said Hunt, who took home the Big Ten title last year. "If everybody's firing on all cylinders, I think there's a good chance that we could just give everybody else a run for their money."

But the Illini couldn't give everyone else a run for their money. Only one other runner besides Bizzarri finished in the top 20. Senior Stephanie Simms finished in 20th place with a time of 21:24.

Even though the expectations were there all season for Bizzarri, and only escalated as the NCAA Championships got closer, she said the pressure did not faze her.

"I try not to think about it that way," she said. "I just try to think about going out and doing what I can do."



STORY BY ERIN FOLEY  
PHOTOS BY CHRISTINA LEUNG  
JOSH BIRNBAUM

## THE SCOREBOARD

NTR	Illini Open
1st	Illini Challenge
1st	Brissman-Lundeen Invite
5th	Notre Dame Invite
7th	Pre-Nationals
5th	Big Ten Championships
1st	NCAA Midwest Regionals
8th	NCAA Championships





**Opposite right:** Freshman Rachel Wyffels runs toward the finish line at the Illini "Pack-B-Up" Challenge on Sept. 15 at the UI Arboretum. Wyffels finished with a time of 20:33. Photo by C. Leung

**Opposite left:** Freshman Taylor Bennett hustles uphill on Sept. 1 at the 4K Illini Open at the UI Arboretum in Urbana. Photo by C. Leung

**Above:** Illinois' Jamie Kuhl runs during the 4K Illini Open cross-country meet on Sept. 1 at the Arboretum in Urbana. Kuhl placed 14th with a time of 15:01.59. Photo by J. Blinbaum





**Opposite right:** Angela Bizzari runs with the pack in the one mile of the Big Ten Championships at the Armory on Feb. 25. Photo by J.P. Gague

**Opposite left:** A pack of Illinois runners gets out in front during the women's one mile run at the Armory. Angela Bizzari won the race, and the top six runners were from Illinois. Photo by B. Vest

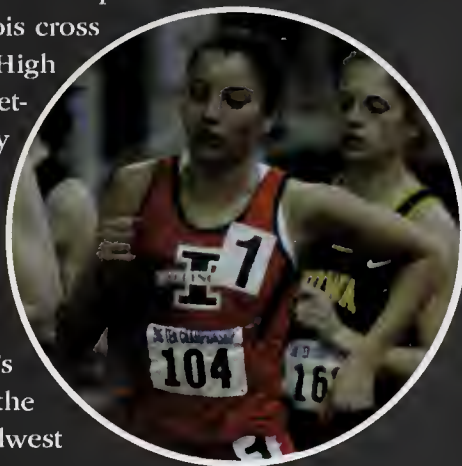
**Above:** Freshman Angela Bizzari competes in the one mile run during the Big Ten Championships at the Armory. Photo by B. Vest



## ATHLETE PROFILE

# ANGELA BIZZARRI

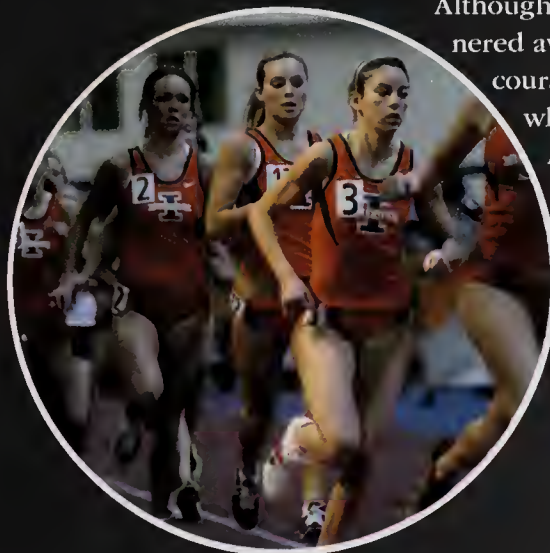
As a freshman, Angela Bizzarri wasn't expected to be the best runner on the Illinois cross country team. Coming out of Mason High School in Ohio, never having competed much at the national level, many high school coaches didn't know the impact Bizzarri could have on the Big Ten—or if she could have one altogether. But it didn't take long for coaches to take note. Bizzarri, Illinois' top runner, was the opposition's focal point all season and the talk of the Big Ten Championships and the Midwest Regional Championships.



"Coming into the season, I didn't really know how I was going to do, so there wasn't that much pressure on me per se," said Bizzarri, who earned All-American honors at the NCAA Championships after finishing in 24th place.

"My goal coming into the season was to make the traveling squad—top seven—so I didn't know how fast I would run. It's turned out really well; I've surpassed my goals."

The quiet and reserved Bizzarri led the Illini to its first-ever Midwest Regional title behind a second-place overall finish (20:47), and along the way broke a number of school and freshman records. Pressure, though, is no obstacle—even when it came to running in her first Big Ten Championships, Bizzarri said.



Although Bizzarri is mild-mannered away from cross country courses, it's a different story when it comes to racing.

After her first race, she said she didn't realize her physical capabilities until "you are running faster than you ever have."

STORY BY **ERIN FOLEY**  
PHOTOS BY **BRAD VEST**  
**JOHN PAUL GOGUEN**





**Opposite right:** Illinois senior Patrick Nagle takes a swing on the course at Urbana Golf and Country Club.  
**Opposite left:** Illinois golfer Matt Hoffman keeps an eye on his golf ball.  
**Above:** Illinois golfer Zach Barlow chips toward the green.



# MEN'S GOLF

## MIX OF YOUTH AND EXPERIENCE MAKES STRIDES IN BIG TEN

With a 12th-place finish at the Big Ten/Pac-10 Challenge on Oct. 24, the Illinois men's golf team concluded its 2006 fall season. The year featured both positives and negatives for the Illini, who earned their highest finish of third place at the Windon Memorial Classic on Oct. 9.

The 2006 Illini team featured a mix of youth and experience. The Illini were led all season by seniors Kyle Hosick and Patrick Nagle, while red-shirt junior Mark Ogren and redshirt freshman Zach Barlow, among others, contributed for the Illini.

On Sept. 25, the Illini concluded their inaugural Olympia Fields Country Club/Fighting Illini Invitational. Illinois shot a final-round score of 296 to finish in ninth place in the 12-team event with a 54-hole total of 886.

Nagle recorded his third-straight round of 1-over-par 71 and finished the tournament at +3 with a 54-hole total of 213. Nagle missed medalist honors by just two strokes, and it was the 10th top-five finish of his career. It was also Nagle's best finish since placing third at the Duke Golf Classic in the fall of 2003 during his sophomore season.

"I hit the ball pretty well and made some good shots coming in. I had a couple of bad breaks,

had some mud on my ball in the fairway on 18 which I bogeyed, then my drive on the fairway on 7 landed in a divot, and I ended up taking a double there," Nagle said in a press release. "But I came back and was able to finish with a birdie on 9. Overall, I'm pretty happy with how I played; it was nice to be in contention."

Hosick placed 19th at +10 and carded a 75 in the final round to finish with a 54-hole total of 220 at the event. Ogren finished tied for 39th place at 226, while junior Frank Alafoginis tied for 45th at 229.

While the Illini didn't fare as well as they would have liked at their home tournament, it gave them a chance to compete against some of the best teams in the country. Seven of the teams that advanced to the 2005 NCAA Championships played in the Illini Invitational.

"Our players once again were able to compete against the top teams in the country at this event," head coach Mike Small said in a press release. "Patrick obviously had a really good tournament, but overall we didn't reach the expectations that we have for our program."

"We saw signs from every player in our lineup, now we need to work towards making that next step which is to sustain that effort for an entire tournament."

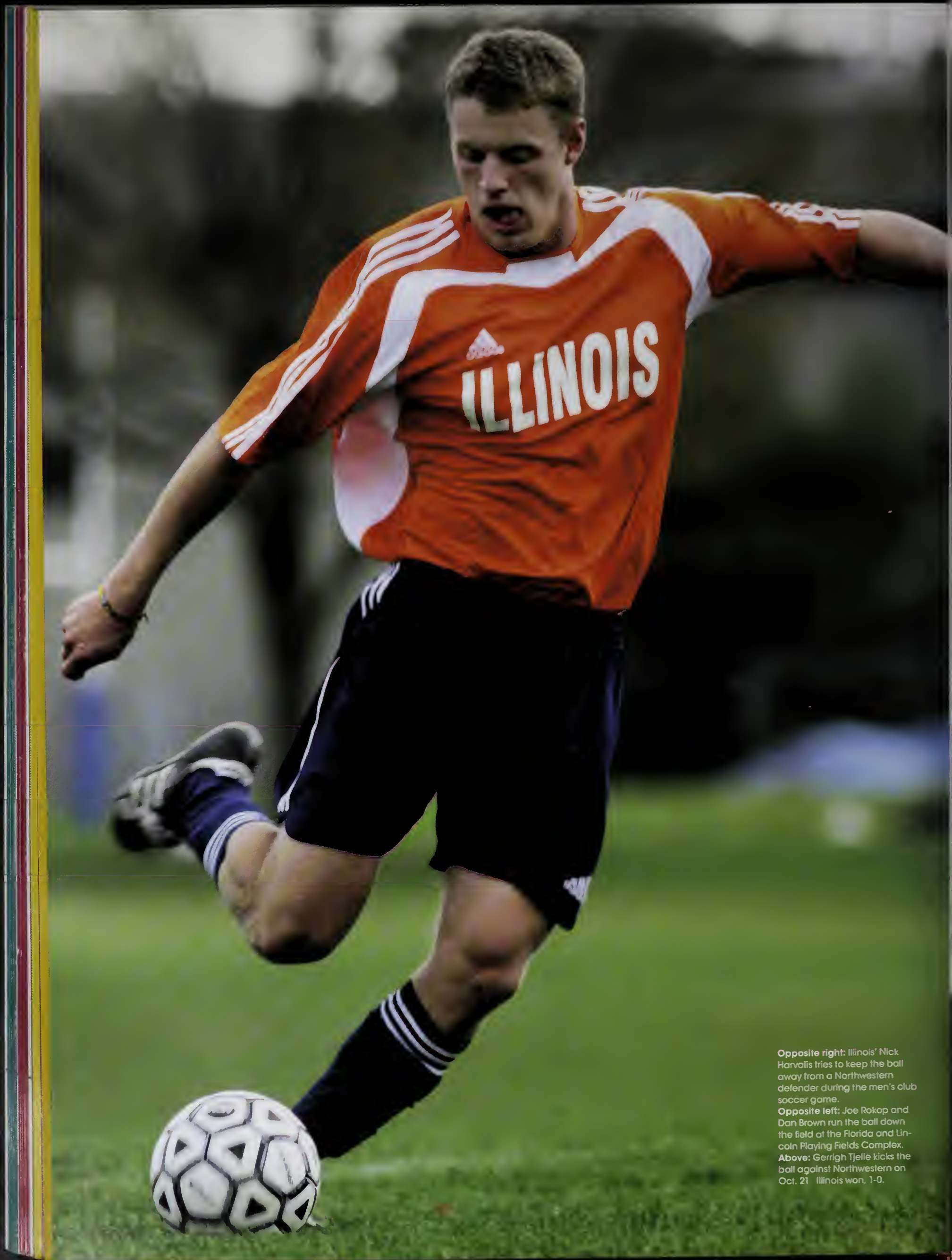
STORY BY ERIN FOLEY  
PHOTOS BY ADAM BABCOCK



## THE SCOREBOARD

7-12th Inverness Intercollegiate  
9th Fighting Illini Invitational  
7-5th Windon Memorial Classic  
10th The Presitte at PGA  
12th Big Ten/Pac-10 Challenge





**Opposite right:** Illinois' Nick Harvalis tries to keep the ball away from a Northwestern defender during the men's club soccer game.

**Opposite left:** Joe Rokop and Dan Brown run the ball down the field at the Florida and Lincoln Playing Fields Complex.

**Above:** Gerrigh Tjelle kicks the ball against Northwestern on Oct. 21. Illinois won, 1-0.



## MEN'S CLUB

# SOCCER

## LAST-SECOND GOAL AGAINST DAYTON SENDS ILLINI TO TITLE GAME

The 2006 Illinois men's soccer club once again returned to dominant form and proved why it is one of the best teams in the nation.

Traveling across the Midwest, the Illini played many of the best club teams in the Midwest Alliance Soccer Conference, and showed that they deserved to be considered a serious contender for the national title with a 10-2-3 overall record. After surviving close games at the regional tournament, Illinois closed out the season with a second-place finish at nationals.

The road to the national tournament, however, was filled with close and important games that would separate them from great Illinois teams of the past.

Led by the veteran experience of senior captain/coach Rickie Partyka and the outstanding play of senior midfielder Dan Brown and junior sweeper TJ King, the team started off the season on fire, only losing to regional powerhouse Michigan.

As the season came to an end, the Illini found themselves playing for a spot in the regional tournament on the last weekend of the regular season against Northwestern and Michigan State.

"We knew we were facing two really good teams," junior defender Adam Biernacki said. "Michigan State was ahead of us in points and Northwestern had pulled off some pretty big up-sets."

After losing its first game to Michigan State, the team responded with a victory over Northwestern, which resulted in a regional tournament birth.

The Illini, comprised of tested veterans and young talent, traveled to Bloomington, Ind., where they needed to work as a team to earn a trip to nationals.

"Some of the younger guys might not know how much this means to the older guys because they haven't experienced it yet," Partyka said.

"We try to do our best to let them know that this is it. You have to get here, because if you don't get here then the season didn't mean anything."

After tying Purdue, Illinois played for its season against Dayton. Needing to win by two or more goals to keep its season alive, Illinois was up 2-1 on the Flyers with only seconds left in the game.

"With the game basically over, we had one last chance to score on a corner kick," Partyka said. "We knew this would be the last play of the game so we moved every player we had into the box."

In the play, later nick-named "The Scrum of '06," the ball touched every Illini player and hit the post three times before Tope Adesiea pushed Illinois past Dayton, 3-1.

Illinois then defeated Western Michigan and Indiana to secure its spot in the national tournament.

"That play (against Dayton) really summarized the whole weekend for us, and it was a great example of our team effort to never give up," Biernacki said.

The Illini finally traveled to Tempe, Ariz., for the national tournament on a mission to prove that they were one of the best teams in the nation.

Against the toughest competition of the year, Illinois tied Brown, beat Salt Lake Community College and then Arizona, before facing off against Ohio. Tied after regulation, the Illini pulled out a 5-4 win in a shoot-out. The Illini defeated San Diego before falling to Michigan in the title game.

STORY BY KYLE BETTS  
PHOTOS BY JOSH BIRNBAUM



## THE SCOREBOARD

3-0	Springfield	2-1	Iowa	7-0	W. Illinois	3-0	N. Illinois	2-2	S. Illinois	0-4	Indiana	1-0	C. Michigan	5-0	Loyola	3-1	DePaul	1-0	Miami (Ohio)	0-1	Dayton	1-0	Michigan St.	1-1	Northwestern	3-1	Purdue	2-0	Dayton	2-0	W. Michigan	1-0	Indiana	3-1	Salt Lake	0-1	San Diego		Michigan
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## MEN'S CLUB

# HOCKEY

## GOALTENDING TANDEM SENDS ILLINI TO TOP OF STANDINGS



Halfway through the 2006-07 season, the Illinois men's club hockey team had just one blemish on its record.

The American Collegiate Hockey Association's (ACHA) No. 1-ranked Illini ended their first semester schedule with two home victories over the 10th-ranked Michigan-Dearborn Wolves on Dec. 1-2 to move to 17-1.

To that point, Illinois' only loss was a 3-1 defeat at the hands of then-No.13 Kent State on the road. However, the loss came at a point when the Illini were without junior forward Kevin Wicklin, junior defense man Dave Schmitt, senior forward Marshall Chubirka and freshman forward J.J. Heredia, all of whom were inactive with injuries at the time.

"We knew with a month break coming up we wanted to get rolling into the second semester," sophomore forward Jordan Pringle said. "It was big for us to get two convincing wins going into break because it was a big bummer having a week-long break after our loss."

Through 18 games, Illinois scored an astonishing 117 goals and averaged six-and-a-half goals per game. Of the Illini's 117 goals, 51 have come via their power play.

All but five players on Illinois' 22 man roster had scored goals at the halfway point of the season. Leading the way were forwards Jason Nemeth and Drew Heredia. Nemeth led the team with 14 goals heading into the break, while captain Drew Heredia led the team in total points with 30.

"We have great balance on this team," head coach Chad Cassel said. "We have four lines that play well, and what you might think is our fourth line could be our best line on one particular night. It's good because it doesn't allow teams to focus on one particular line."

On the other end of the spectrum, the Illini gave up just 32 goals all season and are allowing teams to score just under two goals per game against them.

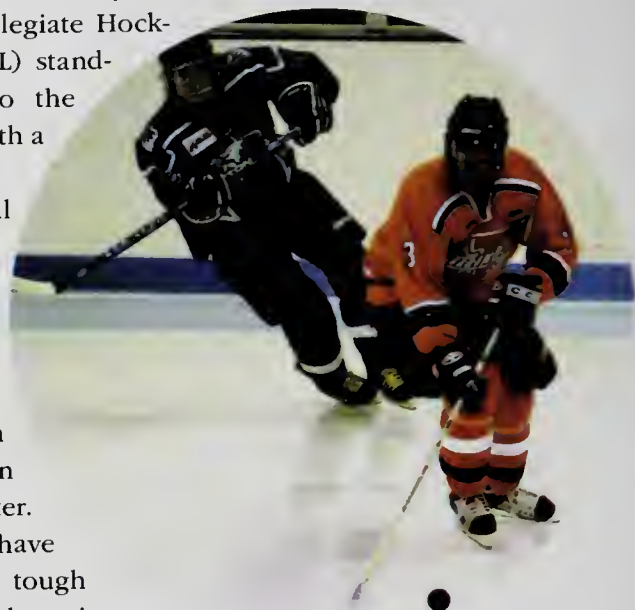
The main reason why the Illini have been so stingy defensively has been the play of its goaltenders. In 16 starts this season, senior goalie Mike DeGeorge has posted a 1.81 goals-against average and 92.25 save-percentage, while freshman goalie Mike Burda has allowed just three goals all season in few times minding the net for the Orange and Blue.

"We have unbelievable goaltenders," freshman forward Matt Jennings said. "DeGeorge is a senior that is having a huge year for us so far, and Burda got a shutout in his first start, and you can't start your career off any better than that."

The Illini are currently in first place in the Central States Collegiate Hockey League (CSCHL) standings heading into the semester break with a 9-1 league record.

Illinois will have an opportunity to capture its first CSCHL regular season title since the 2002-2003 season with a strong finish in the second semester. But the Illini will have to go through a tough road to claim the championship as they face-off against four teams ranked in the ACHA's top 20.

"It was good for us to get in the lead in the league early in the season, especially since we get into our tougher games second semester against teams like Lindenwood, Iowa State and Ohio," Drew Heredia said.



STORY BY JASON GRODSKY  
PHOTOS BY JOSH BIRNBAUM  
ADAM BABCOCK

## THE SCOREBOARD

7-2	Oakland	6-3	Oakland	6-0	St. Louis	16-0	St. Louis	4-2	Central Oklahoma	7-2	Central Oklahoma	3-1	Liberty University	3-2	Liberty University	7-3	Western Michigan	5-2	Western Michigan	8-0	Eastern Michigan	7-3	Eastern Michigan	6-2	North Michigan	6-2	North Michigan	5-1	North Dakota State	1-3	North Dakota State	13-2	Kent State	7-2	Kent State	5-3	Michigan-Dearborn	6-2	Michigan-Dearborn	4-1	North Dakota State	2-3	North Dakota State	3-2	Lindenwood	3-0	Lindenwood	3-0	Iowa State	3-0	Iowa State
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**Opposite left:** Illinois' Mott Jennings tries to get to the puck before Michigan-Deorborn's Don Lomonico during the men's club hockey game on Dec. 2. Illinois won, 7-2. *Photo by J. Birnbom*

**Opposite right:** Illinois' Alex Touchen, right, moves down the ice as Eastern Michigan's Josh Nummerdor follows during the game of home on Oct. 4. *Photo by A. Bobcock*

**Above:** Jason Nemeth tries to keep the puck away from a North Dakota State defender of a home game on Nov. 11. Illinois won, 6-2. *Photo by J. Birnbom*





**Opposite left:** Kathleen O'Kelly-Kennedy shoots the ball during the women's wheelchair basketball game against the RIC Express.  
**Opposite right:** Illinois' Josh George tries to grab the ball from RIC Hornet's Jaime Ballazor during the men's wheelchair basketball game.  
**Above:** Illinois' Paul Word looks to pass the ball during the men's wheelchair basketball game against the RIC Hornets.



## WHEELCHAIR

# BASKETBALL

## FAST STARTS FUEL QUESTS FOR NATIONALS

In 2006-07, the Illinois men's and women's wheelchair basketball teams both got off to fast starts in their quests for national titles.

The men opened its season 3-0 with commanding victories against Variety Village, the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago Hornets and the Chicago Wheelchair Bulls on Oct. 28-29 in the Illinois Classic at IMPE. Men's and women's head coach Mike Frogley was impressed with the way fifth-year player Paul Ward competed against Variety Village.

"I thought Paul Ward came out and just absolutely lit them up," Frogley said. "He was running the ball-side screen-and-roll to perfection."

Frogley is also confident in his two captains, Denny Muha and Josh George.

"Josh is going to be the key for our success," Frogley said. "He's a mismatch for other teams because of his speed and his quickness."

On Nov. 3 and 4, in a game against the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, and two against Southwest Minnesota State University, sophomore guard Steve Serio averaged 20 points. However, the team suffered a 70-64 loss — its first of the season — to Wisconsin-Whitewater. Frogley said Serio was the top freshman in the country last year and that he's the Illini's "go-to guy, on or off the ball."

As of Dec. 4, the men accumulated a 6-4 non-conference record, and were 2-1 in its conference. After winning a national championship last season, but

losing six players in the process, the women's wheelchair basketball did not know what to expect entering the 2006-07 campaign. The Illini need to fill the role of Jen Ruddell, the first woman to be drafted by a men's wheelchair basketball team.

"There won't be another Jen Ruddell," Frogley said. "Jen is probably considered to be the best in the world right now."

So with question marks going into the first tournament of the year, the Illini walked away with a 5-0 record. First year player Arley McNeney averaged 18.75 points for four of the five games. As the starting center, McNeney will need to be a go-to player in order for the Illini to be successful.

"(McNeney's) strength is her ability to focus in the moment, her way to play in the moment," Frogley said.

Starting point guard Shelley Chaplin runs the offense for Illinois and has her own unique style of play.

"I love how Shelley plays so aggressively," Frogley said. "It catches a lot of the (opponents) off guard."

Led by top scorer Carlee Hoffman, the Illini will look to repeat its performance from last season.

"We don't rebuild with our women's program," Frogley said. "We reload."

STORY BY **BRIAN ATLAS**  
PHOTOS BY **JOSH BIRNBAUM**



## THE SCOREBOARD

**MEN'S**  
68-41 V. Village  
73-45 Chicago Bulls  
64-70 Whitewater  
62-47 SE Minn. St.  
78-44 SE Minn. St.

**WOMEN'S**  
58-18 Blazers  
50-23 Spinal Liberty  
46-6 City Starz  
50-17 Cardinals  
54-40 Alabama  
54-37 RIC Express  
57-32 RIC Express  
54-25 RIC Express  
42-25 RIC Express  
54-35 Alabama



**Opposite right:** Southwestern  
swimmer comes up for a  
breath of air during swim prac-  
tice. *Photo by P. Traylor*  
**Opposite left:** Caroline Moore  
swims in the 200 meter freestyle  
at the Illinois swimming and diving  
team's annual Orange and  
Blue Intersquad meet.  
*Photo by J. Birnbaum*  
**Below:** Mallory Craft swims in  
the 100 meter backstroke at the  
Illinois swimming and diving  
team's annual Orange and  
Blue Intersquad meet where  
she finished in first place.  
*Photo by J. Birnbaum*





# WOMEN'S SWIMMING & DIVING

## STRONG START DAMPERED BY NINTH PLACE BIG TEN FINISH

With a squad of 14 newcomers, the Illinois women's swimming and diving team looked to its eight seniors for leadership during the 2006-07 campaign.

"We have eight seniors, and they are a very dynamic class," head coach Sue Novitsky said. "We're looking to the entire class to add that leadership for the rest of the team because we have such a young team."

The Illini also faced the difficult task of having every meet on the road. The Intramural Physical Education Building (IMPE), Illinois' home pool, is undergoing construction and renovation. The amount of travel the team has had to endure has made it stronger in the long run, Novitsky said.

"It's something that we can't control," Novitsky said. "Hopefully, one of the by-products of that is it does make them tough, especially when we travel to the Big Ten Championships."

When the season began, the Illini hoped to achieve a winning dual meet record and improve their standing in the Big Ten, and at the same time, begin to be noticed at the national level. Illinois finished with a 4-1 dual meet record and defeated Michigan State and Iowa, swimming competitively against national powerhouses, Michigan and Notre Dame.

The Illini started on the right foot with a 171.5-102.5 victory against Oakland University.

"It's really going to help the team out," said Novitsky. "Our freshmen had a great weekend; they really stepped up."

Less than 24 hours later, Illinois came out strong against Michigan State and won 166-134.

Sophomore Marissa Clapp came away with four victories against the Spartans, including the 200 meter medley relay. Because of

her efforts, she was named Big Ten Swimmer of the Week.

"We need to be keeping consistent with our competition and how we are racing and competing overall throughout the meet," Novitsky said.

On Oct. 27, Illinois dismantled Illinois State, winning 15 of 16 events. Novitsky was proud of the way the team got the job done.

"They are very hard workers; they want to come in and do a great job and have the team be successful," she said.

The Illini were handed their first loss of the season—a 157-143 defeat to the Buckeyes—on Nov. 4. The Illini were led by seniors Barbie Viney and Meghan Farrell. Both made the NCAA provisional cuts, and over 85 percent of the swimmers turned in personal best swims.

At the Texas A&M Reveille Invitational, the Illini finished fifth behind three of the top teams in the country. With the long, three-day competition, Novitsky's goal was for the Illini to mentally stay focused.

"We want to go into each session being prepared and staying on top of the game," Novitsky said.

As a final end of the season tune-up, Illinois defeated Iowa, 174-126. Caroline Moore, who won the 500 meter freestyle and was second in the 200 meter freestyle, propelled the Illini to victory.

"I think they competed well; the swimmers were definitely able to put together good splits," Novitsky said. "The divers did a good job on the boards and put together a consistent meet."

STORY BY MEGHAN MONTEMURRO  
PHOTOS BY JOSH BIRNBAUM  
PATRICK TRAYLOR



## THE SCOREBOARD

171-102	Oakland	166-134	Mich. St.	210-90	Illinois St.	143-157	Ohio St.	5th	Reveille Invite	4th	Michigan Invite	174-126	Iowa	9th	Big Ten's
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WOMEN'S

# WATER POLO

## CLUB SQUAD LOOKS TO FUTURE AFTER THIRD PLACE FINISH

Capturing third place in the Big Ten Tournament, the Illinois women's water polo team capped off a terrific season by beating Purdue University 9-4 in its final game.

Maggie Gates, junior in speech pathology, led the team in goals from the hole, or center position, concluding the tournament with nine. She was also a first-team all-conference selection. Molly Sweeney, a senior in speech and hearing science, received the same honor, scoring three goals and leading the team in 17 steals for the tournament.

"We really stepped it up as a team," Sweeney said. "This was the tournament that really mattered, and every girl stepped up and got done what needed to be done."

The team competed in five other tournaments throughout the season. Spending weekends at Wisconsin-Madison, Fenwick High School, Miami University of Ohio, Iowa, Michigan State and finally Purdue, the team went 14-13 for the season and 7-6 in the Big Ten, with an undefeated 4-0 record at Iowa for a tournament win.

"In the beginning of the season, we had to make some adjustments because we graduated some key players," said Gates, who finished the season with 44 goals. "Having a deep bench was critical to our success, helping us get to a third-place Big Ten finish, and have fun getting there."

Coached by Andrew Schneider, junior in Business Administration, the girls worked to overcome the complications with practice time that resulted from IM-PE's closure.

"Working with only four as-

signed pool hours a week made coming together as a team difficult, but I think we handled it well and worked hard to improve, regardless," Gates said.

Schneider agreed, saying that the team put extra hours of conditioning in on their own time to balance the lack of pool time.

"The girls put a lot of hard work and dedication into practice," Schneider said. "It is a great culmination of the season to end with a third place victory, especially against Purdue in their home pool."

Utility player and junior in industrial and enterprise systems engineering, Megan O'Connell was a major contributor to the team, finishing the season with 14 goals and 26 swim-off wins.

"We had some good tournaments and some bad, but it came together nicely in the end," she said. "I think we played really well as a team at Big Tens, helping out on defense and finding the open player on offense."

Losing seniors Sweeney, Kristin Lowry, Claire Walter, and Adrienne Dumas, the team will head into next season with four of its seven starters from the 2007 season.

"Illini water polo has provided me with some of the best memories of my college career and left me with even better friends," Sweeney said.

O'Connell has high hopes for the returning members.

"We got third this year, but we are definitely just as good as the top two finishers, Michigan and Michigan State, and next year we will prove it," she said.

STORY BY & PHOTOS COURTESY OF DENI STRITCH



## THE SCOREBOARD

12-1	EMU	3-14	Toronto	6-7	Mich. St. Alum	5-7	GLSU	5-7	O.C.	6-0	Wis-Madison	5-7	Purdue	13-4	Wis-Madison	10-8	Michigan	11-7	Iowa	10-0	Wis-Madison	9-10	Purdue	5-6	Miami Ohio	5-15	Notre Dame	4-17	Cal-Poly	6-7	Michigan	9-10	Purdue	1-0	Miami Alumni	11-4	Iowa	13-1	Glinnell	10-6	Iowa Men's & Women's	11-2	Wis-Madison	4-10	Michigan	4-9	Michigan State	7-2	Purdue
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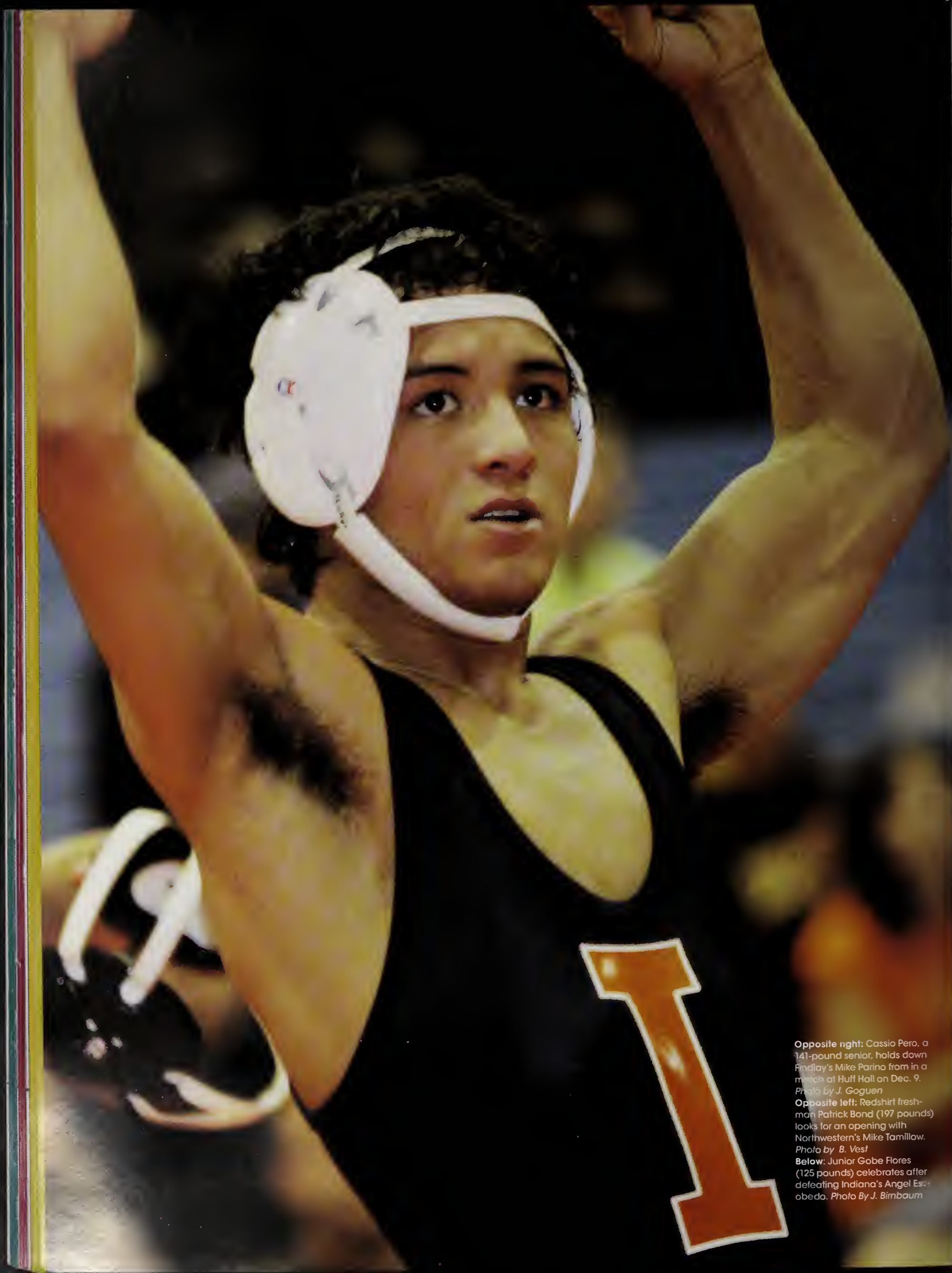
**Opposite left:** Ashley Belbin, Kirstin Lowry and Erin Fox high-five their teammates after a match.

**Opposite right:** Illini player Allie Luft gets tangled with a defender from the opposing team.

**Below:** Colleen Kalland (26), Amy Schumacher (12), Liz Niemyjska (20), Lauren Graebe (4), Kayley Bateman (18) and Maggie Baker (25) have all eyes on the pool.







**Opposite right:** Cassio Pero, a 141-pound senior, holds down Findlay's Mike Parino from in a match at Huff Hall on Dec. 9. Photo by J. Goguen

**Opposite left:** Redshirt freshman Patrick Bond (197 pounds) looks for an opening with Northwestern's Mike Tamillow. Photo by B. Vest

**Below:** Junior Gabe Flores (125 pounds) celebrates after defeating Indiana's Angel Esobedo. Photo By J. Bimbaum



MEN'S

# WRESTLING

## EIGHT GRAPPLERS EARN QUALIFYING BIDS TO NCAA CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Illini wrestlers entered the 2006-07 season at a crossroads. They lost five starting seniors from last season's squad that sent all 10 starters, the most in the nation, to the NCAA tournament.

With holes in half the Illini lineup, head coach Mark Johnson needed to combine his returning national qualifiers with untested grapplers.

"We have a lot of potential in this room," Johnson said. "This is one of our best freshmen classes."

The Illini used the annual Wrestle-Offs and early season open tournaments to round out the lineup.

At the Missouri Open during Thanksgiving break, the Illini had four first-place winners, and 11 other wrestlers placed in the top six of their classes. Sophomore Mike Poeta (157 pounds) earned his third-straight Missouri Open individual win. As the No. 1 seed in his weight class, Poeta won four-straight matches, including a defeat of Missouri's second-seeded Mike Chandler.

True freshmen Jimmy Kennedy (133) and John Dergo (184) both earned first place finishes in the open's freshman division and asserted themselves as viable options for the Illini's lineup.

The Illini ended December looking to win the Midlands Championship for a record fourth-consecutive time, but the field, which was filled with nine ranked opponents, proved too strong.

They finished sixth out of 56 competitors. Poeta and Kennedy provided

bright spots for the squad.

Kennedy finished in second place after losing in the championship match against top-

ranked Nick Simmons of Michigan State.

Poeta upset the top-ranked Trent Paulson of Iowa State, 9-8 in the final match of the 157-pound weight class. After the match, Poeta was awarded the Dan Gable Most Outstanding Wrestler Award, and a week later was named Big

Ten Wrestler of the Week. Poeta took the top spot in the national poll.

"Mike Poeta can be as good as Mike Poeta wants to be," Johnson said. "He has the ability to be the best."

The Illini entered Big Ten play in January undefeated and ranked 16th in the national rankings. Returning national qualifiers Gabe Flores (125), Cassio Pero (141), Troy Tirapelle (149) and Poeta, combined with Kennedy, Dergo, Roger Smith-Bergsrud (165), Matt Winterhalter (174), Nick Guida (174), Patrick Bond (197) and John Wise (HWT) helped to defeat then-No. 8 Northwestern, No. 13 Indiana, No. 12 Penn State and No. 23 Michigan State. The four wins in 10 days catapulted Illinois into the Top Ten in the national rankings.

Going into the second week of February, the Illini sat 4-1 in the conference, second only to top-ranked Minnesota. Poeta remained atop the polls with a record of 18-0.

"My goal coming into this year was not to be ranked No. 1 or go undefeated; my goal was to win a national title," Poeta said. "And if I'm undefeated throughout the year, that's a bonus."

The Illini closed out the season with a 19th-place finish at the NCAA Tournament in Auburn Hills, Mich.

STORY BY **MIKE THEODORE**  
PHOTOS BY **BRAD VEST**  
**JOSH BIRNBAUM**  
**JOHN PAUL GOGUEN**



### THE SCOREBOARD

NTS	Missouri Open
NTS	UNI Open
48-0	Cent. Missouri St.
38-6	Findlay
6th	Midlands
32-3	UNC
26-0	Maryland
21-13	Northwestern
22-9	Indiana
22-13	Michigan St.
18-16	Penn St.
12-28	Minnesota
29-7	Purdue
21-16	Wisconsin
19-18	Ohio State
7th	Big Ten's
19th	NCAA's



# WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

## YEAR ENDS WITH SECOND ROUND LOSS IN WNIT

Seventy had been a magical number for the Illinois women's basketball team until it lost to Michigan State on Feb. 4.

Despite the loss, the team feels it has already surpassed expectations this season with its 16-6 record and fourth-place showing in the Big Ten. It feels much of its success can be attributed to standout sophomore Lori Bjork and freshman Jenna Smith.

"We're growing as a team and coming into our own," assistant coach Stacie Terry said. "Even with the loss to Michigan State, we're starting to know where our shots are coming from and who's taking them."

Prior to losing to the Spartans, the Illini had an undefeated record when scoring 70 points or more in a game. Illinois was also the top free-throw shooting team in the Big Ten with an 81 percent accuracy rating.

"We played a good game, but when we had the opportunity to get ahead, we didn't make the plays we needed to," Terry said.

Missing free throws played a big factor in the game as the Illini managed to shoot only 46 percent from the line. Even with 19 points from Bjork and nine rebounds from Smith, Michigan State outplayed Illinois, winning 80-70.

"It's always tough to play on the road," sophomore Danielle Gratton said. "We played our part offensively, but we didn't beat them down defensively, and that's what got us in the end."

The defense may have been hindered in the Michigan State game, but offensively the team has a workhorse in Bjork, who ranks fourth in the Big Ten in points with 15.1 points per game. She also leads the team in three-

point shots, averaging 40.9 percent.

"People see her offensive stats and realize she can shoot the ball," Gratton said. "They don't realize how much she runs the team with her leadership and has a lot more responsibilities than scoring."

Since the losses of senior Audrey Tabon (ACL) and sophomore Megan Nyquist (back) to injury, Terry credits newcomer Smith with taking over many responsibilities. With an average of 10.9 points and 7.6 rebounds a game, Smith ranks as one of the top freshman in the Big Ten.

Even with strong performances on the court, Smith felt the transition from high school to college wasn't easy. The Bloomington, Minn., native admits that even now she is still going through a tough readjustment period.

"The Big Ten is such a competitive conference, and you have to bring your 'A-game' everyday" she said. "It makes it harder as well with all my friends and family being eight and a half hours away and not being here to support me."

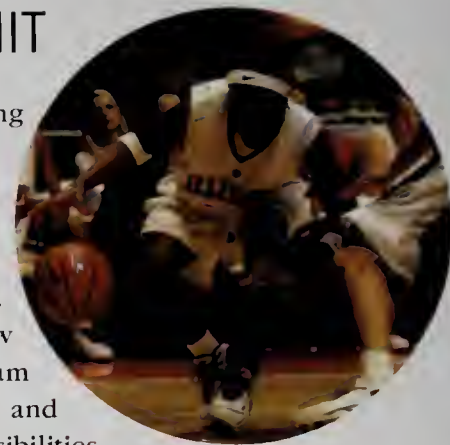
Smith isn't the only young player on the team, as over half the team consists of underclassmen. Smith, however, thinks that this will play to Illinois' advantage in the long run.

"All the stars on Ohio State and Purdue are seniors," she said. "We don't just play to win, but to grow as a team as well."

Terry agrees with the assessment and feels the team has much to look forward to—now and in the future.

"They are all a bunch of team players," she said. "We're very happy with where we are."

STORY BY LIZ WEBER  
PHOTOS BY ADAM BABCOCK



## THE SCOREBOARD

74-65	Penn St.	61-70	Minnesota
70-51	Michigan	64-71	Indiana
70-62	Wisconsin	64-54	Minnesota
52-62	Ohio St.	77-49	Northwestern
65-44	Michigan	70-80	Michigan St.
57-69	Purdue	60-69	Ohio St.
74-69	Iowa	68-81	Indiana
56-46	Michigan St.	48-58	Purdue
49-61	Penn St. (BTT)	59-48	Utah (WNIT)
51-66	Kansas St. (WNIT)		



**Opposite left:** Freshman forward Lacey Simpson looks to shoot during the Orange and Blue Scrimmage.

**Opposite right:** Illinois guard Rebecca Harris drives past Butler's Jackie Classer during the second half of the season-opener at Assembly Hall.

**Below:** Chelsea Gaudan drives past Clarian's Katrina Greer in a game at Assembly Hall.





MEN'S

# BASKETBALL

INJURIES, SUSPENSION AND CAR CRASH IMPACT COURSE OF SEASON

During the 2006-07 campaign, the Illinois basketball team referred to themselves as the "walking wounded." They were the unwilling recipients of compounded injuries, a suspension, and also a car crash that left Jamar Smith and Brian Carlwell with severe concussions. Following the accident, Smith, the driver of the vehicle was treated and released, while Carlwell, was admitted to the intensive care unit of Carle Foundation Hospital in critical condition.



The car crash was the back-breaking event that left the Illini wondering how to rebound from its many setbacks, but it also aided them in their push for an NCAA tournament bid.

As the season began to unfold, the Illini had to learn how to survive without the likes of Dee Brown and James Augustine, who with 114 victories compiled the most of any other players in their four years with the team. The Utah Jazz's Brown left the Illini with a giant hole in the background, while senior Warren Carter was looked at to fill the shoes of best friend James Augustine, a forward with the Orlando Magic.

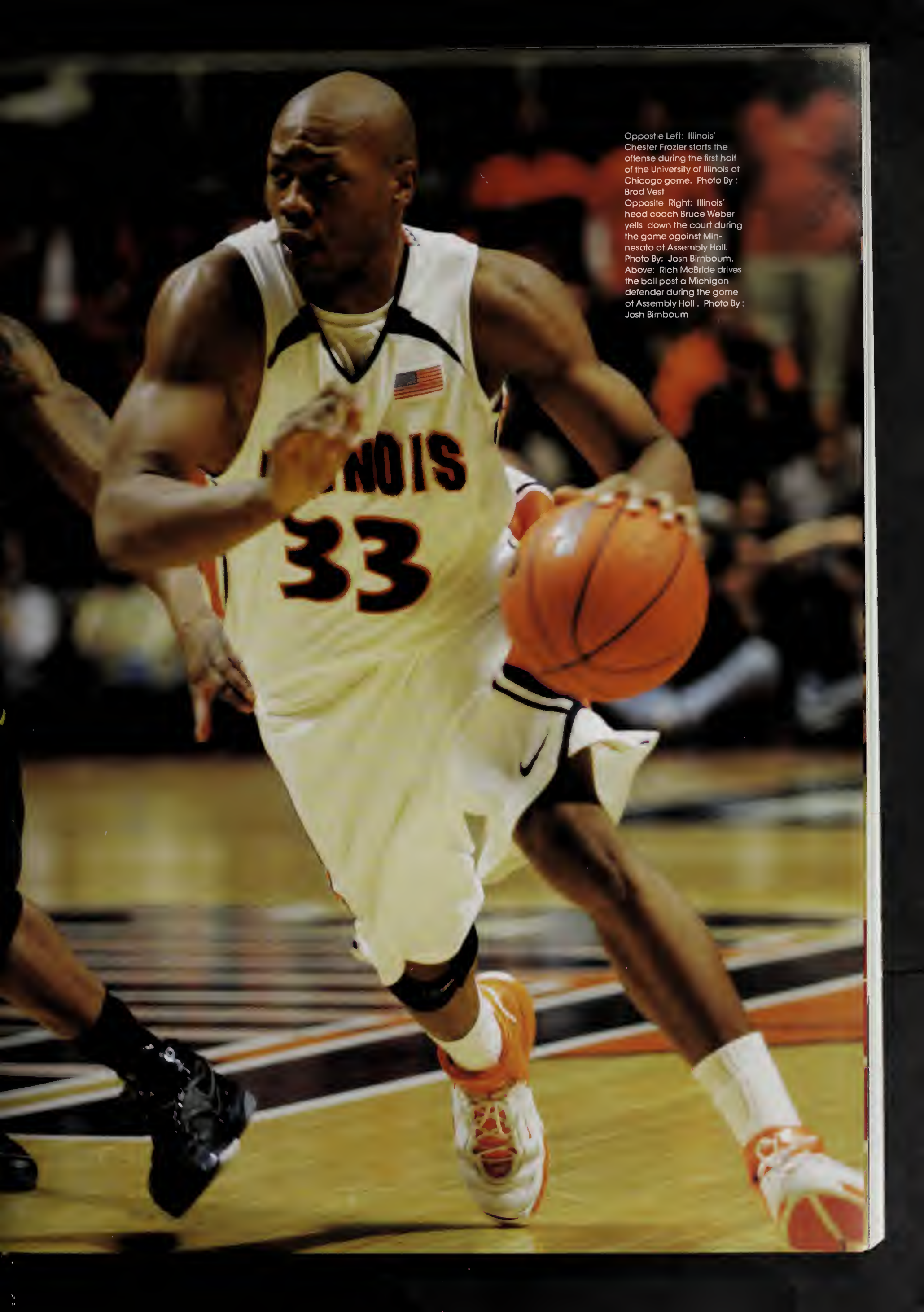
From the beginning, head coach Bruce Weber was unsure how his untested and young team would respond. He was unsure whether senior Rich McBride could fill his pre-determined leadership role, whether Carter would "chill" through the season or continued...



## THE SCOREBOARD

83-58 Lewis (Exh)  
76-57 SIU (Exh)  
80-35 Austin Peay  
76-55 Jackson St.  
85-50 Georgia St.  
84-63 FAMU  
81-34 Savannah St.  
51-49 Miami (OH)  
75-71 Bradley  
66-72 Maryland  
72-84 Arizona  
87-59 IUPUI  
71-66 UIC  
77-51 Belmont  
73-70 Missouri  
71-60 Idaho State  
59-65 Xavier  
61-71 Michigan  
44-62 Ohio State  
74-70 Iowa  
57-63 Michigan St.  
64-52 Minnesota  
64-71 Wisconsin  
51-43 Indiana  
47-64 Purdue  
57-50 Michigan St.  
59-49 Minnesota  
58-43 Northwestern





Opposite Left: Illinois' Chester Frozier starts the offense during the first half of the University of Illinois at Chicago game. Photo By: Brod Vest  
Opposite Right: Illinois' head coach Bruce Weber yells down the court during the game against Minnesota at Assembly Hall. Photo By: Josh Birnbom.  
Above: Rich McBride drives the ball past a Michigan defender during the game of Assembly Hall. Photo By: Josh Birnbom



# MEN'S BASKETBALL CONTINUED

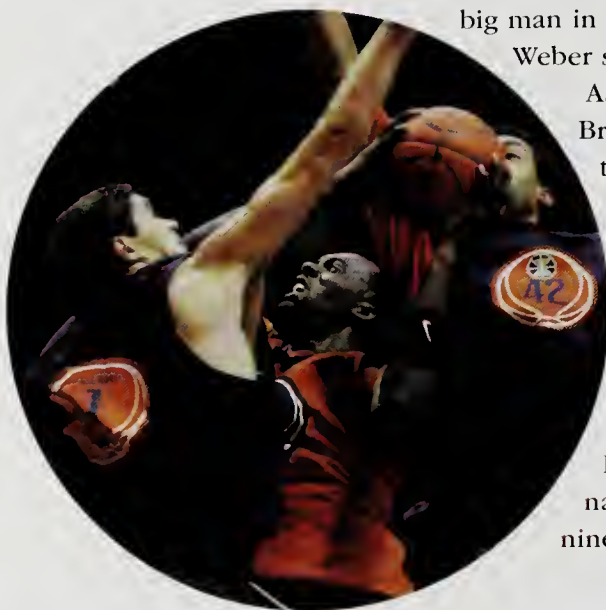
He was unsure whether senior Rich McBride could fill his pre-determined leadership role, if Carter would "chill" through the season, and whether Brian Randle could become the go-to guy Weber desperately needed.

Carter shed his highlight-player skin and began to become a regular contributor, although his aggressive nature was lacking some nights. Yet, after not playing much in his first three seasons, said his senior season was on a different spectrum than the first three.

"Personally, it's been a lot of fun at times," Carter said. "It just feels so much different compared to my first years. But as a team, we definitely had some good times; it's just been so shaky through all the injuries and everything so it's been a tough senior year, but I've still enjoyed a lot of it, though."

Although Carter came into his own earlier in the year, it took McBride nearly 10 games following his suspension to get into the sync with the Illini's offense. Weber, though, was impressed with the character McBride displayed in the second half of the year.

"Rich's progress as a person—and a player—has really been amazing; and now he's a pretty big man in the Big Ten," Weber said.



As well as McBride was able to finish his senior season, Randle's junior year could only be described as a disaster. The Peoria, Ill.-native missed nine games early

in the season after having groin surgery on Nov. 17. He then suffered through plantar fasciitis, which disrupted his normal style of play. By missing nearly 60 practices, he could no longer be the scorer the Illini needed. He instead had to focus on passing, screening and defense.

The Illini won their first seven games before falling to Maryland 72-66 at home on Nov. 28. The loss ended Illinois' 51-game non-conference home-winning streak.

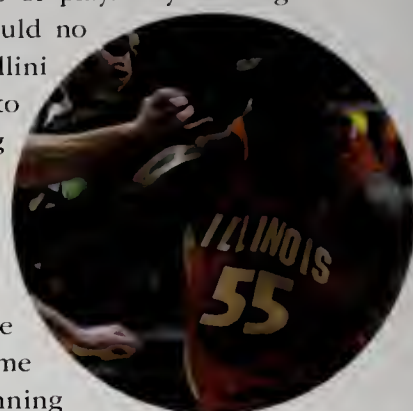
"We shouldn't lose at home," Weber said. "I don't care who's here or not. We gave up 72 percent (field goal shooting) in the second half. We've been pretty good; I understand the competition is different, but that shouldn't happen at home."

Illinois followed the Maryland defeat with a loss to Arizona in Phoenix in the Hall of Fame Challenge.

But the Illini's struggles were apparent as they opened Big Ten play on Jan. 3 against Michigan in Ann Arbor. The team opened its Big Ten stretch of the season with two straight losses and hardly looked like Illini teams of the past that had continually been ranked as one of the top three teams in the conference. One of the Illini's low points came on Jan. 20 when they lost to then-No.2 Wisconsin, 71-64. Illinois had led 62-61 with 3:48 to play.

"To have a team like this down any points with two minutes to go and then not make some plays, it hurts," said a red and teary-eyed Randle. "We're all accountable; I think we all feel it, it's just one of those things where you feel like you should win a game, but we didn't make those plays."

STORY BY ERIN FOLEY  
PHOTOS BY BRAD VEST  
JOSH BIRNBAUM



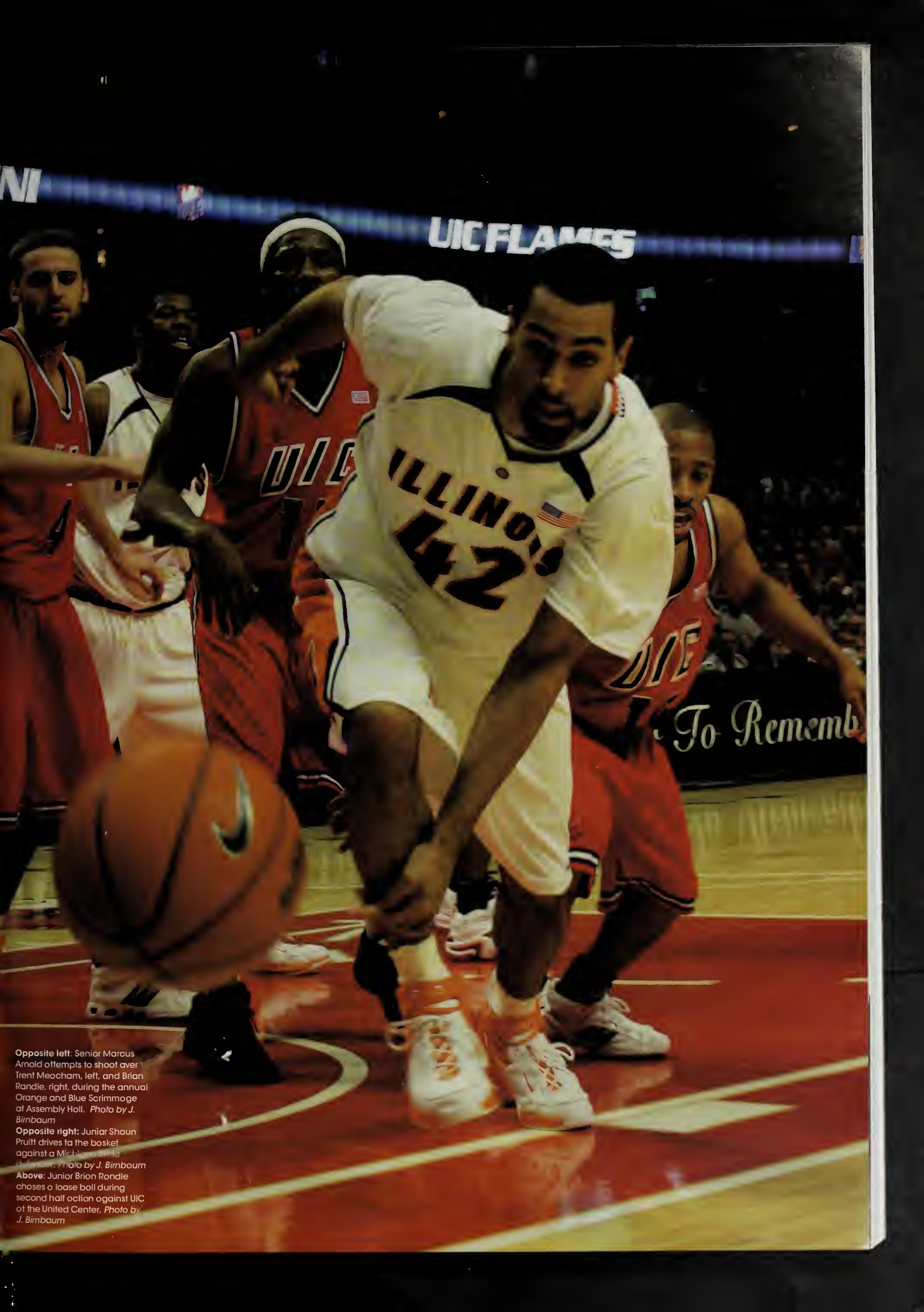
## THE SCOREBOARD

74-70	Iowa	64-52	Michigan St.	64-71	Minnesota	51-43	Wisconsin	47-64	Indiana	57-50	Purdue	59-49	Michigan St.	58-43	Minnesota	47-64	Northwestern	61-65	Purdue	48-37	Indiana	54-42	Northwestern	68-50	Michigan	53-60	Penn State	66-60	Iowa	58-54 (OT)	Penn St. (BTT)	41-53	Indiana (BTT)	52-54	Wisconsin (BTT)	Virginia Tech (NCAA)
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NI

UIC FLAMES



**Opposite left:** Senior Marcus Arnold attempts to shoot over Trent Meocham, left, and Brian Randle, right, during the annual Orange and Blue Scrimmage at Assembly Hall. Photo by J. Birnbaum

**Opposite right:** Junior Shaun Pruitt drives to the basket against a Michigan State defender. Photo by J. Birnbaum

**Above:** Junior Brion Randle chooses a loose ball during second half action against UIC of the United Center. Photo by J. Birnbaum



## ATHLETE PROFILE

# WARRENCARTER

In his first three seasons with the Illini, Warren Carter averaged just 8.8 minutes per game and 1.9 points per game. Even with limited action on the court, though, Carter became an instant fan favorite at the Assembly Hall.



"He's one of the most likable guys in the country, hands down," said junior forward Brian Randle, who is also Carter's roommate.

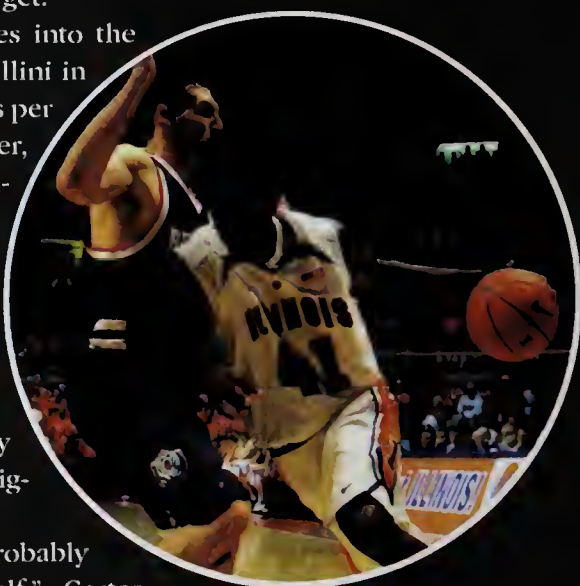
During the past three years, the expectations for the senior forward have been anything but sky high. He was always the role player, second tier to his best friend and former Illini James Augustine.

With a new hairstyle and a new attitude, Carter thinks he has exceeded the expectations that were set for him at the beginning of the year. He has embraced being the team's go-to scorer and leader and has shed his "chill" mentality, something that troubled head coach Bruce Weber at the outset of the 2006-07 season.

"I think I've exceeded my own expectations because I didn't even know if I was going to start this year," said Carter, a Dallas, Texas native. "I didn't even know if I was going to come close to averaging double figures: I didn't know how many minutes I was going to get."

Twenty-seven games into the season, Carter led the Illini in scoring with 13.2 points per game. Over the summer, Carter's bench press increased to nearly 300 pounds and ran the mile in 5:20. Most importantly, with an athletic six-foot-nine physique, Carter is no longer intimidated by some of the Big Ten's biggest bodies.

"I think I should probably expect more of myself," Carter said. "Now that I realize I can be one of the best players on the court, I just need to believe in myself and have the confidence to do it."



STORY BY ERIN FOLEY  
PHOTOS BY BRAD VEST  
AMELIA MOORE  
JOSH BIRNBAUM





**Opposite left:** Warren Carter paints to the crowd after scoring during a game at Assembly Hall. Photo by J. Birnbaum

**Opposite right:** Warren Carter attempts to drive past a Belmont defender in the Illini's 77-51 win Dec. 17 at Assembly Hall. Photo by B. Vest

**Above:** Warren Carter poses for a portrait during Media Day at the Ubben Basketball Complex on Oct. 13. Photo by A. Maare





**Opposite left:** Mott Ragusa, who placed fifth with a jump of 4.60 meters, clears the bar in the pole vault during the Corle/Health Alliance track and field meet on Jan. 27 at the Armory. *Photo by J. Birnbaum*

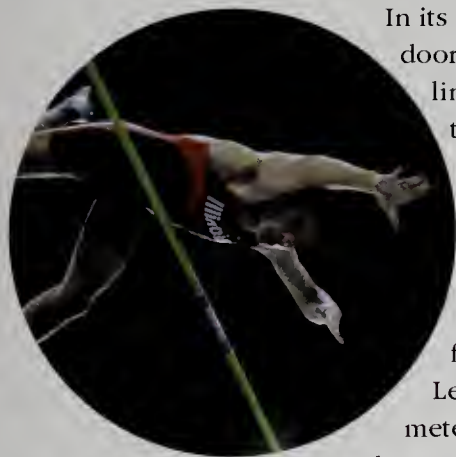
**Opposite right:** Azeez Shogbuyi competes in the 60 meter dash at the Armory. He placed sixth overall in the event. *Photo by B. Vest*

**Above:** Jon Houseworth rounds the corner with five laps left during the men's distance medley at the Armory. *Photo by B. Vest*



# MEN'S TRACK

## ILLINI EARN THREE BIG TEN TITLES TO CLOSE CONFERENCE SEASON



In its lone home meet of the outdoor season on April 15, the Illinois men's track and field team came away with four first-place finishes and two regional qualifiers.

Freshman Joey Hodges won the 400-meter hurdles in dominating fashion, while sophomore Lesiba Masheto took the 800 meters, defeating the second place runner by more than two seconds. In the distance events, the Illini experienced positive results, as well. Senior Jason Bill ran away with the 1,500 meters with a time of 3:54, and senior Tim Kelly held off the competition in the 5,000 meters with a 15:29.

"I felt that our performances were solid, and I felt that we still had quite a bit of work to do in a short period of time," head coach Wayne Angel said to the Daily Illini on April 17. "I am encouraged by the athletes' desire to do better."

After a disappointing 10th-place finish at the Big Ten Indoor Championships in February, the Illini looked to their outdoor campaign as an opportunity for redemption. Masheto's fifth-place time of 46.14, a career best, at the NCAA Championships highlighted the team's indoor season. The sophomore walked away from the meet with an All-America honor and became the new school record holder in the event.

"He capped off a great indoor season," Angel said in a DI article March 12. "He has got all the tools and his confidence level is just amazing."

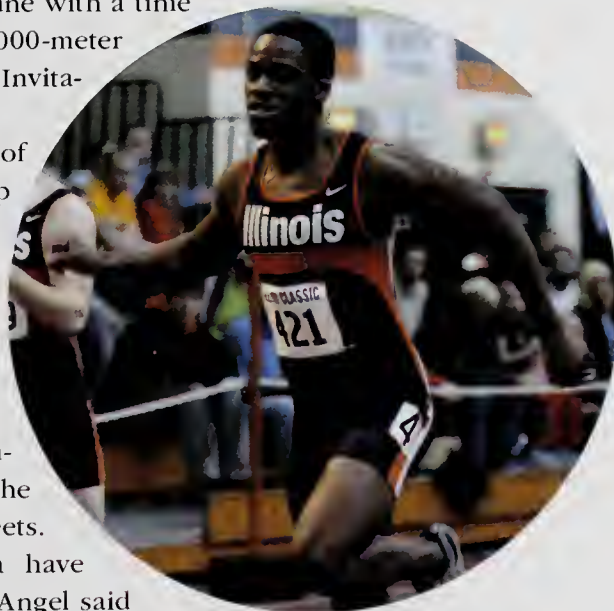
But, in its first outdoor meet of the year—the Willie Williams Classic in Tuscon, Ariz., on March 16 and 17—Illinois qualified seven of its team

members for the NCAA Regionals. Masheto continued his winning ways, but on a higher scale. His 45.41 in the 400-meters was a career-best time, and put him in first place among college athletes in the nation. Angel applauded Masheto's performance as one of the "best times in the world."

The Illini also got production from its veteran senior duo Anthony Young and Adrian Walker, who took first and second, in the 400-meter hurdles. Senior Bryan Pratt took third place in the 110-meter hurdles, junior Nick Brown took second in the triple jump and junior Andrew Zollner came in first place in the pole vault. Tramell Smith (first place in 800-meter run) and Trent Hoerr (first place in the 5,000-meter run) also provided bright spots. Hoerr also qualified for the NCAA Outdoor Championships in June with a time of 28:55 in the 10,000-meter run at the Stanford Invitational.

With a goal of finishing in the top three at the Big Ten Outdoor Championships, Angel hoped the Illini would be able to build on the seven regional qualifiers they had accumulated through the first two outdoor meets.

"Many of them have been there before," Angel said to the DI on March 27. "The veterans will do well, and the new people will do well."



STORY BY ERIN FOLEY  
PHOTOS BY JOSH BIRNBAUM  
BRAD VEST

## THE SCOREBOARD

1st of 8 Carle/Health Alliance  
10th of 10 Big Ten's (Indoor)  
2nd of 12 SIU Invite  
6th of 10 Big Ten's (Outdoor)



# WOMEN'S TRACK

## TEAM CLINCHES SHARE OF BIG TEN CHAMPIONSHIPS TITLE

After a successful outing at the Illinois Invitational, the women's track and field team headed to the Kansas Relays looking to garner numerous accomplishments. Although the team traveled to Lawrence looking for regional qualifiers, it appreciated the distraction the meet provided.

"There's a lot of looking to get times, but it is the Kansas Relays," assistant coach Karen Harvey said in a Daily Illini article on Apr. 20. "It's fun to win a relay with four other people and to win a relay championship where the greatest relays meet in the country. It's a real privilege to win, so we came here to win."

During the previous weekend, the Illini saw a number of personal best times, including top marks in sprint events and the 1,500 meter run. Sophomore Katie Engel and freshman Angela Bizzarri took first and third place, respectively, in the mile-run with times of 4:24 and 4:28. Bizzarri also earned second place honors in the 800 meters (2:17) at the team's lone home meet of the season on Apr. 15.

"The 800 went well, I felt good at the end, so I was excited about that," Bizzarri told the DI on April 16. "It's definitely nice having a lot of people that are really good to push you, both in workouts and in races; it helps to run faster."

In the sprints, senior Yvonne Mensah won the 100 meters with an 11:42 and took second in the 200 meters with a time of 23.62. Both marks were

good enough to qualify for regionals. The trio of Camille Robinson, Carlene Robinson and Omoye Ugiagbe swept the 400 meters, while Kristina Jones won the triple jump with a distance of 12.45 meters, and LaNeisha Waller took home 100-meter hurdle honors, all to the delight of home-track crowd.

Waller and the Illini will employ a no-quit attitude as they gear up for the championship phase of the 2007 season. Although happy with her performance at the home meet, Waller thinks there is more to come.

"The team is definitely looking to qualify for nationals," Waller said. "First you just want to qualify for regionals and after you get past that, you want to be consistent with what you're already doing. Then you want to make it to nationals—that's the ultimate goal."

In 2005, the Illini celebrated a first-place team finish at the Big Ten Outdoor Championships, but followed it a year later with a fourth-place mark at the same event. It will look to achieve a balance between those rankings when it competes in the Big Ten meet in State College, Penn., on May 11 and 12 before heading to the NCAA Regionals in Columbia, Miss., during the final week of May.

STORY BY ERIN FOLEY  
PHOTOS BY JOSH BIRNBAUM  
BECK DIEFENBACH



## THE SCOREBOARD

1st Carle/Health Alliance  
3rd Big Ten's (Indoor)  
71st Big Ten's (Outdoor)





**Above:** Alecia Beckford-Stewart jumps in the long jump event during the Carle/Health Alliance Invite. Beckford-Stewart placed third with a jump of 5.71 meters. *Photo by J. Birnbaum*  
**Opposite left:** Members of the women's track and field team compete in the 1,500 meters of the Illinois Invitational at the Outdoor Track and Soccer Stadium. *Photo by B. Diefenbach*  
**Opposite right:** Jacqueline Ziegler clears the bar in the pole vault during the Carle/Health Alliance Invite at the Armory. *Photo by J. Birnbaum*



# WOMEN'S GOLF

## ILLINI CLAIM SIXTH PLACE AT BIG TEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Illinois women's golf team started off the fall campaign with a third-place finish at the Hawkeye Intercollegiate. The Illini were led by junior Stephanie Mory, who finished in seventh place individually to lead Illinois. Despite two 10th place finishes at the Lady Northern and the Lady Irish Invitational, Illinois looked to finish the fall season strong.

The Illini were able to wrap up a second-place finish out of 18 teams at the Shootout at the Legends. The Illini broke the Illinois school 54-hole tournament record with 890 strokes. Junior Seul Ki Park tied for second place individually in the tournament.

After a three month lay-off, the Illinois women's golf team had a solid start to the spring season, taking sixth place at the Chrysler Challenge.

Mory stepped up for the team with a 10th-place individual finish. Mory shot an Illinois tournament record-low round of 76 in the third round of play. Illinois head coach Renee Slone said she was impressed with Mory's performance.

"The last round she played far better than the score indicates," Slone said.

The Illini were without senior captain Meghan Naik, who had been out for a few weeks because of a hairline fracture in her ankle.

Slone said with the Chrysler Challenge being the first competition in almost three months, she knew the team would be rusty.

"The short game was not quite as sharp as I thought it would have been given the amount of time spent in that area," Slone said.

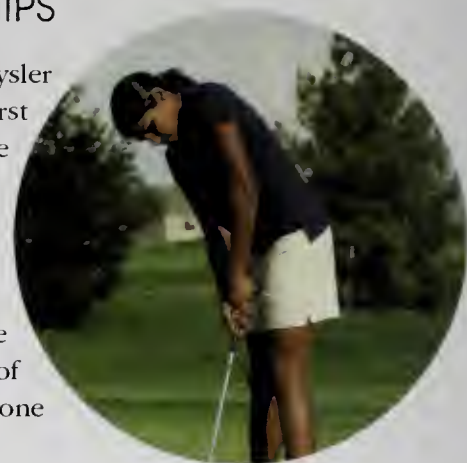
After a week off, the Illini placed 15th out of 18 teams at the Rio Verde Invitational. Park tied for 21st to lead the Illini individually. Despite Naik returning to play, they were without Mory, who sat out with an illness. Overall, Slone said she thought the team was capable of performing better.

"There were a lot of mental mistakes made as well as a lot of double and triple bogeys and even higher," Slone said. "Making high numbers like that is very hard to recover from."

The Illini traveled to Florida during Spring Break to compete in the two-day Cincinnati Spring Invitational. Illinois captured a fifth-place finish out of a field of nine teams. Park finished second, which led the Illini. Again, Slone said the Illini were capable of performing better.

"We had a very good chance to win the event," Slone said. "They've experienced a lot of success on this golf course."

STORY BY MEGHAN MONTEMURRO  
PHOTOS COURTESY OF ILLINOIS SPORTS INFORMATION



## THE SCOREBOARD

3rd of 9 Hawkeye Intercollegiate  
10th of 12 Lady Northern  
11th of 18 Notre Dame Invite  
2nd of 18 Shootout at Legends  
6th of 10 Chrysler Challenge  
15th of 18 Rio Verde  
5th of 9 UC Spring Invite  
3rd of 17 IU Invite  
11th of 14 Lady Buckeye Invite  
6th of 11 Big Ten's





**Opposite left:** Seul Ki Park drives the ball at practice.

**Opposite right:** Senior Meghan Naik practices putting during a practice at the beginning of the fall season.

**Above:** Casey Burden watches the ball during an early season practice.





**Opposite right:** Senior GD Jones returns a ball during a singles match at Atkins Tennis Center in Urbana. *Photo by P. Traylor*

**Opposite left:** Brandon Davis returns the ball against Texas A&M. Illinois defeated the Aggies, 6-1. *Photo by B. Diefenbach*

**Above:** Illinois' Ruben Gonzales returns the serve in the doubles competition against Duke. *Photo by B. Vest*



# MEN'S TENNIS

## JUNIOR TANDEM CONTINUES RISE TO THE TOP OF THE RANKS

The Illinois men's tennis team celebrated its 100<sup>th</sup> season in 2007. After losing seniors Ryler De-Heart and Pramod Dabir to graduation, the Illini looked to remain among one of the best in college tennis. In 2006, the Illini failed to win the Big Ten regular season championship for the first time in a decade.

In 2007, though, it was about creating a complement of experienced players. Leading the way were juniors Kevin Anderson and Ryan Rowe, who won the doubles national championship in 2006, along with junior Ruben Gonzales.

After winning seven of their first eight matches in the spring, the Illini were off to a good start. Rowe moved up to the No. 2 singles spot after occupying the No. 4 spot in 2006. Prior to Feb. 11, he had lost just a single set in seven matches. Winning both singles and doubles against No. 20 Texas A&M earned him his first Big Ten Player of the Week award. He then rebounded from a disappointing doubles performance against No. 7 Florida to handily defeat Greg Oullette, the No. 16 tennis player in the country, 7-6 (2), 6-3.

"That's a great win for Ryan," head coach Brad Dancer said in a Daily Illini article on Feb. 15. "I saw some emotional maturity from him. I think Ryan tonight took a step in being a leader for this team."

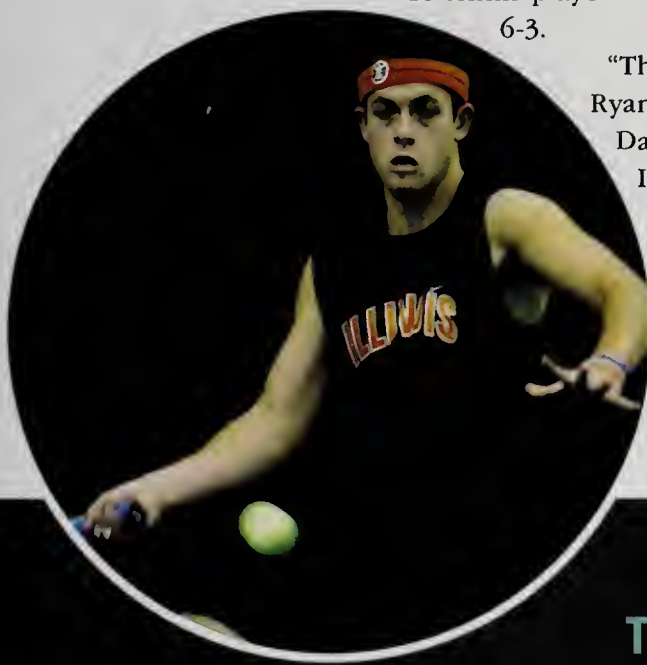
The Illini opened Big Ten play on Mar. 2 against a pesky Michigan State team, but was able to win, 7-0. They may have lost three sets, but the Illini didn't lose a match. Junior Brandon Davis won the first victories of the night in singles and doubles. He, along with Gonzales, won at second doubles.

"Brandon Davis did a great job of teaming with Ruben Gonzales in doubles to help set the tone, and then took care of business in singles," Dancer said.

Following up the win against Michigan State was one over Purdue, 6-1, and against Wisconsin, 5-2. One of its best trips of the season came over spring break when it traveled to Baton Rouge to take on No. 10 LSU. The team, though, suffered a close loss with Gonzales sitting out with an undisclosed injury, becoming the third Illini singles player to face an injury. It didn't affect them against some Big Ten opponents, but it did against LSU, 4-3. Sophomore Marc Spicijaric and senior GD Jones were able to pull out their singles matches, but the team was not able to claim the doubles point.

"(It was) very disappointing to lose today," Dancer said. "The score is not indicative of the effort the guys gave."

STORY BY ERIN FOLEY  
PHOTOS BY BRAD VEST  
BECK DIEFENBACH  
PATRICK TRAYLOR



## THE SCOREBOARD

4-3	Pepperdine	7-0	Ball State	2-5	Virginia	6-1	Duke	4-2	Tennessee	6-1	Texas A&M	4-2	Florida	2-4	Oklahoma St.	0-4	UCLA	7-0	Baylor	6-1	Michigan St.	5-2	Purdue	3-4	Wisconsin	6-1	LSU	2-5	Northwestern	7-0	Notre Dame	2-5	Kentucky	5-2	Michigan	5-2	Penn State	0-1	Indiana	6-1	Ohio State	6-1	Minnesota	4-1	Iowa	4-1	Purdue	1-4	Michigan		Ohio State
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# WOMEN'S TENNIS

## FRESHMAN MEGHAN FUDGE EMERGES AS TEAM'S MVP



With three freshmen and a first-year head coach in Michelle Dasso, the Illinois women's tennis team had a number of new faces at the Atkins Tennis Center in 2007. Dasso came to Illinois after making a name for herself at Notre Dame as the most decorated player in the school's history and an assistant coach capable of recruiting the sport's top talent. Although the team roster consisted of only seven players — senior Emily Wang, juniors Alejandra Meza Cuadra and Momei Qu, sophomore Shivani Dave and freshmen Leigh Finnegan, Megan Fudge and Kristina Minor — it looked to improve upon its 8-15 overall finish (3-9 in Big Ten play) from 2006.

Following a 4-3 victory against Marquette in Milwaukee, the Illini opened their spring season with eight home matches. After losing to Notre Dame and Tennessee 7-0, the Illini won 7-0 against Illinois-Chicago. That success was short-lived as they then lost the next four matches to No. 25 William and Mary, No. 1 Georgia Tech, Purdue and Washington. During that stretch, they were without two of their top players. Both Fudge and Finnegan suffered from foot injuries. After a standout fall season, Finnegan was not expected to return for the spring portion.

"Overall, this weekend we just got outplayed," said Dasso in a Feb. 12 Daily Illini article after falling to William and Mary and Georgia Tech. "We have played a tough schedule, and are down a few people from our lineup, so I don't want the girls to get down on their confidence."

Dasso said she wanted her team to forget about its losses and learn from them, but trying to win its Big Ten opener against Purdue on Feb. 23 was easier said than done. The Illini lost 6-1, but

Fudge returned to the lineup's No. 1 singles spot and defeated the Boilermakers top singles player, and two days later, defeated Washington's top player, Tara Simpson in two sets, 7-5 and 6-4.

"The energy that she brings to the court definitely gives us a different look when she's in the lineup," said Dasso of Fudge.

The team broke out of its slump on Mar. 7 against Illinois State, winning 6-1. Illinois clinched the match after Dave was able to beat her No. 3 singles opponent 6-1 and 6-4. Dasso said Dave stepped up at a big moment for the Illini.

"She clinched it for us today in a tight, close second set," Dasso told the Daily Illini on Mar. 8. "It was huge for her, and we're really proud of her."

Over Spring Break, the Illini traveled to Texas for match-ups with the University of Houston, the University of Texas and the University of Texas at San Antonio. The trip, though, didn't go exactly as planned as Illinois lost two of its three matches.

On the last leg of their tour, the Illini won a 4-2 effort against Texas-San Antonio during the rain-delayed match. The Illini concluded their season with a first-round loss in the Big Ten Championships in Minneapolis on Apr. 26-29 and the NCAA Regionals, which began May 11.



STORY BY ERIN FOLEY  
PHOTOS BY ROXANA RYAN  
JOSH BIRNBAUM

## THE SCOREBOARD

4-3	Marquette
0-7	Notre Dame
0-7	Tennessee
7-0	UIC
1-6	William & Mary
0-7	Georgia Tech
1-6	Purdue
3-4	Washington
6-1	Illinois State
3-4	Houston
0-7	Texas
4-2	San Antonio
2-5	Michigan State
0-7	Northwestern
4-3	Wisconsin
3-4	Penn State
0-7	Michigan
2-5	Indiana
3-4	Ohio State
1-6	Iowa
2-5	Minnesota
0-4	Minnesota (BTT)



**Opposite left:** Freshman Megan Fudge returns the ball in a doubles match against Louisville during the Midwest Blast Tournament.

*Photo by J. Birnbaum*

**Opposite right:** Shivani Davé returns the ball in a doubles match against Northern Illinois during the Midwest Blast Tournament. Davé and partner beat the Northern pair, 9-7.

*Photo by J. Birnbaum*

**Opposite left:** Mamei Qu returns a serve against Michigan State.

*Photo by R. Ryan*







# PRO CIRCUIT



**Opposite right:** Kevin Anderson returns the ball against USA's Zack Fleishman during the Atkins Challenger.  
*Photo by J. Birnbaum*

**Opposite left:** Kevin Anderson returns the ball during a singles match against Florida's Jesse Levine at Atkins Tennis Center.  
*Photo by B. Diefenbach*

**Above:** Kevin Anderson returns the ball in a quarterfinal singles match against USA's Zack Fleishman during the United States Tennis Association Challenger Tournament.  
*Photo by J. Birnbaum*



ATHLETE PROFILE

# KEVIN ANDERSON

As one of only two current Illini athletes to have won an NCAA Championship, Kevin Anderson has experienced his share of success. Last season as a sophomore, Anderson teamed with Ryan Rowe to become the third Illini doubles tandem to win the NCAA doubles title. The duo concluded the 2005-06 campaign with a 32-2 overall doubles record.

The Johannesburg, South Africa native was named the Big Ten Athlete of the Week on Jan. 25 after scoring a tough win over the then-No. 33 ranked player in the country, Andre Bege-mann of Pepperdine, the previous Friday. It may have been the third time Anderson received a reward of its kind, but says he doesn't pay attention to those types of honors.

"I actually had no idea," Anderson told the Daily Illini on Jan. 26. "It's always good to be recognized for my past performance, but that's come and gone, and I'm just thinking about my next match."

Since winning the national championship on May 29, head coach Brad Dancer said Anderson has improved in a number of areas during the off-season and into the indoor season.

"His footwork continues to improve, his swing speed is improving, and his mental tenacity is improving," Dancer said. "He's still got to work on all the little things, but each aspect of his game continues to improve."

That improvement was on display when the then-No. 7 Florida Gators traveled to the Atkins Tennis Center. Anderson, the Illini's No. 1 player, took on Jesse Levine in a marquee match-up featuring the two highest ranked ATP college players. Anderson, however, lost the match 7-6, 6-4 but not before going to a tiebreak in the first set.



STORY BY ERIN FOLEY  
PHOTOS BY JOSH BIRNBAUM  
BECK DIEFENBACH



**Opposite right:** Illinois' Ryan Hostings slides across home plate against Bradley. *Photo by B. Vest*

**Opposite left:** Ryon Snowden, left, and Nick Stockwell high-five teammates after winning the first game of a doubleheader against Ohio State. *Photo by J. Birnbaum*

**Below:** Illinois' Ryon Snowden getting hit by a pitch during the first game of a doubleheader against Ohio State at Illinois Field. *Photo by J. Birnbaum*





MEN'S

# BASEBALL

## DESPITE EARLY STRUGGLES, ILLINI RETURN TO WINNING WAYS

A little over halfway through the 2007 season, the Illinois baseball team had experienced a variety of ups and downs.

Illinois began the season struggling, losing seven of its first nine games before finally turning things around with a strong spring trip to Bradenton, Fla. During that trip, the Illini won six of seven games and got back on track for the first time in the season.

With a 16-14 overall record and 6-4 record in the Big Ten as of April 19, the Illini are heading into the home stretch of the Big Ten season.

Leading the way for the Illini so far this season has been junior catcher Lars Davis.

Going into Illinois' Big Ten series at Iowa on April 20-22, Davis is leading not only the team, but also the Big Ten in hitting. Davis' seven home runs this season rank first in the Big Ten and his .456 batting average is not only best in the Big Ten, but is one of the top 10 in the entire country.

The Canadian born catcher is strong at the plate, but also behind it. Davis is tied for the conference lead in catching base stealers, throwing out 13 would-be base stealers this season.

"Lars has learned to be more patient this year and has been putting good swings on pitches that are up in the zone that he has been able to drive,"

head coach Dan Hartleb said. "He's also done

a tremendous job behind the plate, which often times gets over-

looked since he's hitting so well."

Luckily for Davis, he doesn't have to deal with trying to throw out Illini senior shortstop Shawn Roof.

So far this season, Roof has stolen a conference-leading 24 bases on 28 attempts, improving his career-stolen base total to 49, which ranks tied for eighth in school history.

"You always know Shawn is going to be aggressive on the bases; he doesn't even think twice about running," Hartleb said.

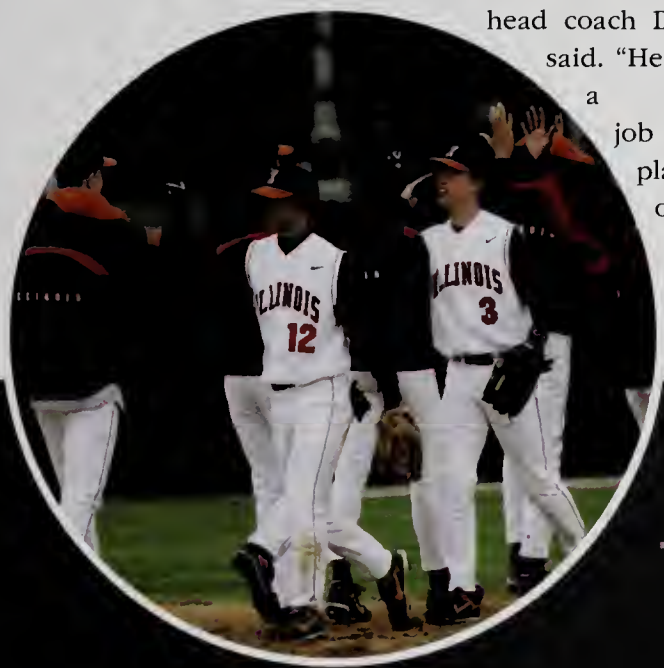
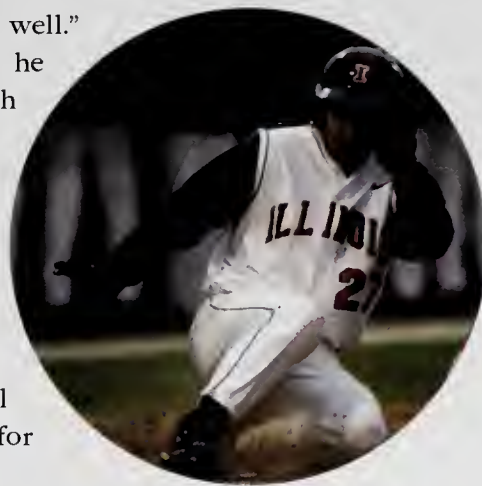
With Roof's speed and Davis' bat the Illini are in contention once again to make their third consecutive appearance in the Big Ten Tournament at seasons end.

The Illini have put themselves in good position to make a run at the postseason as they head into their fourth Big Ten series at Iowa in third-place in the Big Ten with a 6-4 conference record.

With three Big Ten home series left on the schedule, the Illini are hoping they can perform well enough to the point where they wouldn't have to leave their backyard for the Big Ten Tournament.

"This is an important time for us as a team," Hartleb said. "We've gotten through some things early on in the season so far, and we're better as a team. I think we're very capable of doing well in the Big Ten, and it's something I expect us to do."

STORY BY JASON GRODSKY  
PHOTOS BY JOSH BIRNBAUM  
BRAD VEST



## THE SCOREBOARD

2-2 Purdue  
1-1 Ohio State  
3-1 Northwestern  
1-3 Iowa  
1-3 Minnesota  
2-2 Michigan  
4-0 Indiana



WOMEN'S

# SOFTBALL

ILLINI RALLY FOR DRAMATIC COMEBACKS NUMEROUS TIMES



The Illinois softball team made some noise in the 2007 season by crushing the ball and putting on a display of power all year. The Illini had one of the top ranked offenses in the nation and also led the NCAA in home runs.

"All of our players can hit," head coach Terri Sullivan said. "One through nine can change the game with one swing."

Illinois started off the season by escaping snow-covered Champaign for the warmer climates of tournaments out West and in the South.

The Illini faced tough competition early in the season, competing against several highly ranked teams, including a few teams ranked in the top five nationally.

The marquee game of the tournament tour came against the Texas A&M Aggies in College Station, Texas. Illinois faced the No. 4-ranked Aggies in front of their home crowd of more than 1,000 fans in the feature game of the tournament.

"We came out tough and ready to play them," senior Sydney Lisy said. "We weren't going to just lie down and let them run all over us."

Under the lights of the stadium, the Illini led most of the game and held the national champion contenders in check by taking a three-run lead into the last inning.

"They had a lot of rowdy fans there and it was nice to shut them up by leading most of the game on their home field," Lisy said.

The potential upset was cut short when Texas A&M pulled out a win with a walk-off grand slam.

Although the team was upset about the loss, Sullivan said it knew that after that game it could compete with any team in the nation.

The team carried its hot play into the Big Ten season as it fought hard to place themselves in the middle of the race for the conference championship.

"We have experience in the infield and a young pitching staff who wants to compete," junior infielder Shanna Diller said.

Catcher Lana Armstrong and shortstop Angelena Mexicano helped fuel the high-powered Illini attack, leading the team in home runs all season.

Freshman pitchers Vicky Brown and Ashley Wright commanded the defense and pitched several solid innings leading Illinois to many of its victories.

With the Big Ten season coming to an end, the Illini looked to combine their youthful pitching and powerful hitting in a consistent attack to close the gap on the Big Ten rivals.



STORY BY KYLE BETTS  
PHOTOS BY BRAD VEST  
BECK DIEFENBACH

RETROACTIVE SOFTBALL

## THE SCOREBOARD

1-1 Purdue  
1-1 Indiana  
2-0 Michigan St.  
1-1 Michigan  
0-2 Ohio St.  
2-0 Penn St.  
1-1 E. Illinois  
4-5 W. Illinois  
2-3 DePaul  
0-2 Northwestern  
5-0 Bradley  
6-7 Iowa  
0-4 Michigan (BTT)



**Opposite left:** Infielder Angelena Mexicana takes a swing during the game against DePaul at Eichelberger Field. Photo by B. Diefenbach

**Opposite right:** Catcher Lana Armstrong, left, talks with pitcher Ashley Wright after Wright overthrew the ball to first base during the second game of a double header against Michigan. Photo by B. Vest

**Below:** Infielder Shanna Diller watches the ball during the bottom of the fourth inning against the University of Illinois at Chicago at Eichelberger Field. Photo by B. Diefenbach





MEN'S

# GYMNASTICS

FOUR ILLINI EARN ALL-AMERICAN HONORS AT NATIONALS



Veteran leadership was a team strength in 2006 when four-year standouts Adam Pummer and Justin Spring helped lead the Illini to a second-place NCAA finish. Their graduation, though, allowed a young wave of Illinois gymnasts to surface in 2007. Juniors Wes Haagensen, Tyler Yamauchi, Chris Silcox and Jon Drollinger were ready for the challenge.

"I know with Justin (Spring) and Adam (Pummer) going out, people are going to have to step up and fill those spots," said Haagensen after being named Big Ten and National Gymnast of the Week in January.

Spring's presence as a full-time assistant coach allowed him to guide and teach his former teammates. But on the mats, a new group of promising gymnasts emerged.

The team's sophomore class of Chris Lung, Michael Boyer, Kyle Padera, Nick Stango and Tyler Williamson were steady when they got their chances. Boyer and Silcox battled to be the loudest supporter of their teammates.

Freshman Chad Wiest led his class, which also included Brian Liscovitz, Andres Saavedra, and Luke Stannard, who rebounded from an early-season injury to compete on pommel horse and high bar before the end of the season.

It was a squad that, as the season progressed, started coming together.

"We're finally realizing, 'Hey, we can do this,'" junior captain Michael Boyer said after the Illini's first dual meet win over Iowa on March 3. "We're a team that has national potential, and I think at the beginning of the year there was some doubt about that. Finally, we're having routines click."

The team started the season strong with an impressive first-meet score of 209 in the Windy City Invite. Haagensen pulled in the floor exercise title and placed fourth and fifth on parallel bars

and vault, respectively. It was the first of many impressive meets for the Belleville, Ill., native.

"Certainly he's a threat to win the NCAA All-Around Championship this year and be the number one gymnast in the country," head coach Yoshi Hayasaki said.

Haagensen, who finished first in the All-Around at the Big Ten Championships, and Yamauchi were weekly standouts. Yamauchi, though, waited until the March 3 dual meet to unload all his tools. In the competition against Iowa, Yamauchi scored a 9.6 on rings, a 9.3 on parallel bars, and was later named the Big Ten's Gymnast of the Week.

"It's a great honor, but it's just one of those things where you have to say, 'It's about time,'" he said. "Everyone on the team is good enough to win one, but it's time I showed what I could do."

The Illini struggled through losses to Minnesota, Penn State, and Michigan, but were always quick to say that the final measure of their season would be the Big Ten (March 30-31) and NCAA Championships (Apr. 12-14).

The final month of the season from the Pacific Coast Invite (Feb. 24) to the team's overwhelming win against Illinois-Chicago (Mar. 17) 210.000 - 193.050 was used as valuable preparation for the championships.

"We've had that mentality all along," Yamauchi said. "Now, we're starting to put everything together. We have a lot of room for improvement, but we're definitely on the right track."



STORY BY JEFF LA BELLE  
PHOTOS BY ADAM BABCOCK  
JOSH BIRNBAUM  
ROXANA RYAN

## THE SCOREBOARD

2nd of 6 Windy City Invite 204.750-207.150 Minnesota  
211.050-214.700 Ohio State  
205.250-220.150 Penn State  
5th of 6 Pacific Coast Invite 214.950-209.500 Iowa  
212.500-216.350 Michigan  
5th NCAA Championships



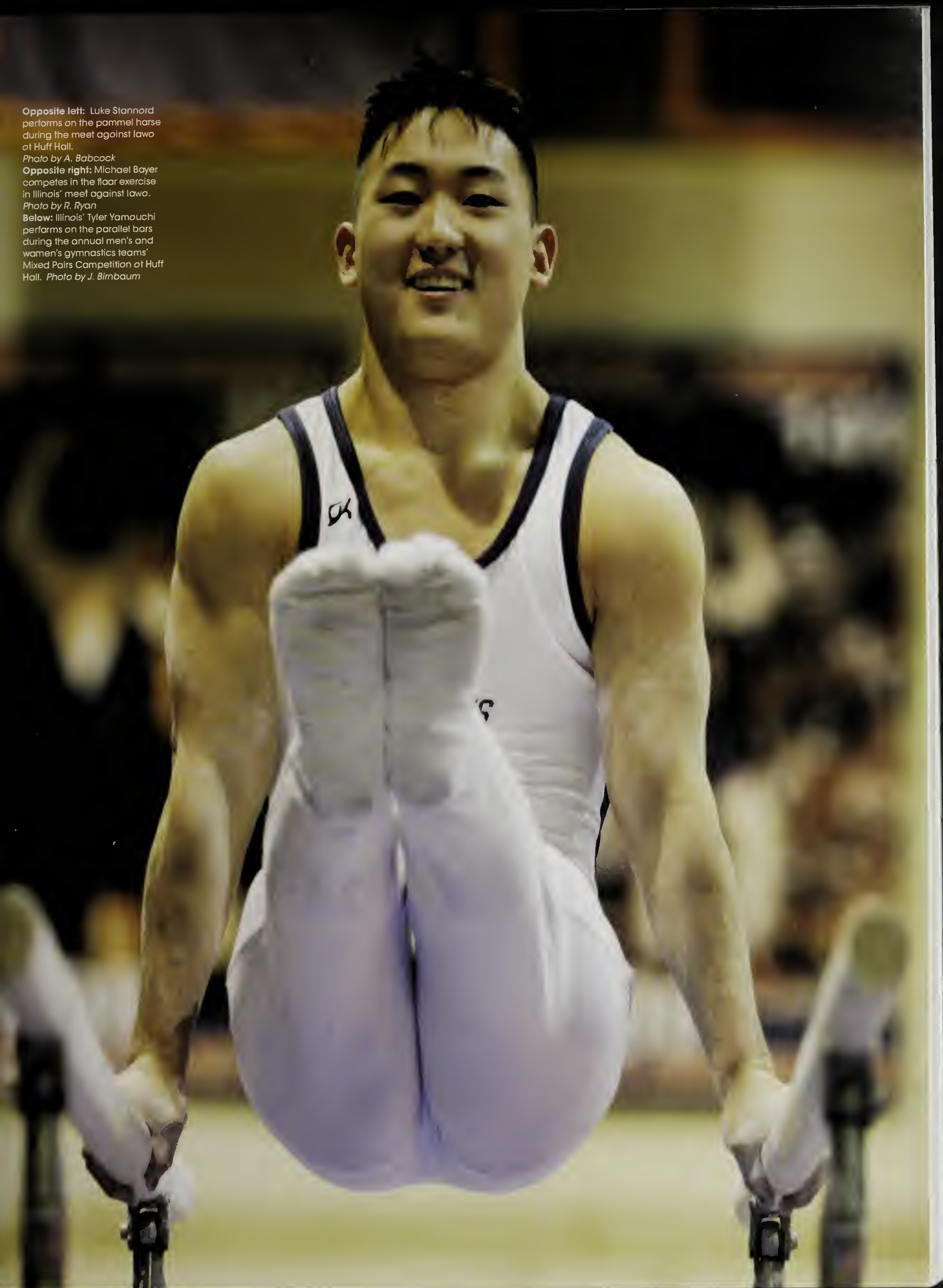
**Opposite left:** Luke Stannord performs on the pommel horse during the meet against Iowa at Huff Hall.

*Photo by A. Babcock*

**Opposite right:** Michael Bayer competes in the floor exercise in Illinois' meet against Iowa.

*Photo by R. Ryan*

**Below:** Illinois' Tyler Yamouchi performs on the parallel bars during the annual men's and women's gymnastics teams' Mixed Pairs Competition at Huff Hall. *Photo by J. Birnbaum*





WOMEN'S

# GYMNASTICS

## ILLINI FINISH SEASON WITH HIGHEST RANKING IN SCHOOL HISTORY

Heading into the Big Ten Championships, the Illinois women's gymnastics team had experienced mixed results.



With a veteran squad featuring three seniors and two juniors, the Illini opened their season with losses at Missouri and LSU. Just as quickly, though, they managed two close wins against Iowa and Ohio State at Huff Hall.

With the help of freshman Nicole Cowart's career-best 9.8 floor exercise score, the Illini narrowly defeated the then-No. 19 Buckeyes 194.950 to 194.000. In addition to Cowart's floor exercise, she scored a personal-best 9.775 on the uneven bars to earn the all-around title.

"With a couple of meets under her belt, she is really beginning to find herself, and I think she is going to be a key factor in determining how well we do toward the end of the season," said head coach Bob Starkell in the Daily Illini on Feb. 5.

After a disappointing performance in Ann Arbor, Mich., against Michigan and Nebraska on Feb. 9, the Illini saw their battle against No. 18 Michigan State the following week as a second chance. Heading into the meet wanting redemption proved beneficial as the Illini topped the Spartans 194.700-193.92 in their first road victory. The team also welcomed back senior Danye Botterman, who injured her foot earlier in the year.

"Danye's presence while competing is much stronger than Danye sitting on the sidelines and cheering," Starkell said in the Daily Illini on Feb. 23.

One of the highest points of the season came on Feb. 26 when Illinois posted a season-high score of 195.925 against Northern Illinois and displayed its potential in front of nearly 500 fans.

"Even though we came in second, I feel that we are a lot closer to reaching our full potential, so I am really excited," Cowart said.

For Starkell, he was happy to see the improved performances from the Illini's sophomore class. Sophomore Marijka Botterman finished third in the all-around with a score of 38.875, while sophomore Lindsey Smith added a 9.850 on vault.

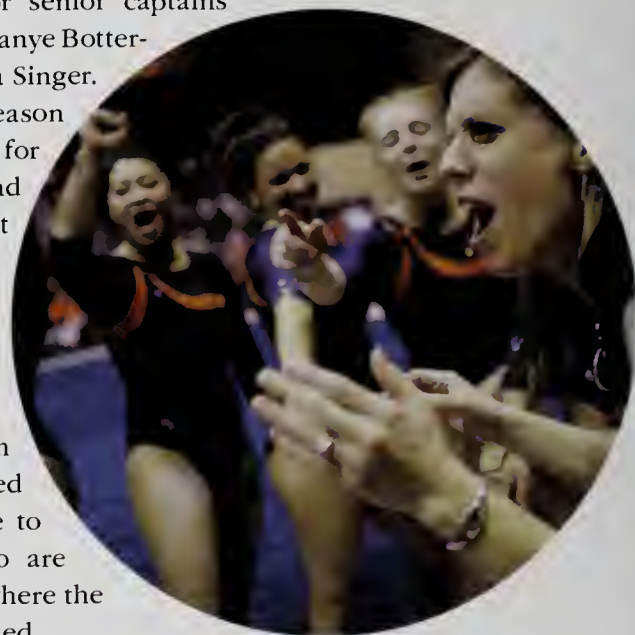
"Looking at all four events, I feel that we had a real strong performance, and there was no class that did not step up," Starkell said after the meet.

After such a high in the meet against Northern Illinois, Starkell said he didn't want to see the Illini become complacent when it traveled to Normal, Ill., to take on Illinois State and Wisconsin-LaCrosse. They came in as the heavy favorite, No. 23 in the country, and they didn't disappoint. Aside from some small mistakes, Illinois took first place in every event.

The Illini's final home meet of the season also was the last for senior captains Cara Pomeroy, Danye Botterman and Melissa Singer.

It wasn't the season the three hoped for as Botterman and Singer both sat out much of the season with injuries. But with a 19th-place ranking, the highest the team had been ranked since they came to Illinois, the trio are pleased to see where the program is headed.

"We have a good shot at going to nationals this year," Singer said. "But I hope that the younger girls appreciate where this team has come from."




STORY BY **ERIN FOLEY**  
PHOTOS BY **JOSH BIRNBAUM**  
**ADAM BABCOCK**  
**BECK DIEFENBACH**

RETROACTIVE WOMEN'S GYMNASTICS

## THE SCOREBOARD

191.025-194.025 Missouri  
193.300-193.850 LSU  
194.725-193.350 Iowa  
194.950-194.00 Ohio State  
3rd of 3 Michigan/Nebraska  
194.700-193.925 Michigan State  
2nd of 3 Iowa State/N. Illinois  
1st of 3 Illinois State/UW-LaCrosse  
195.975-195.775 Auburn  
194.525-194.750 Denver  
195.625-193.975 State of Illinois Classic  
3rd of 4 Big Ten Championships  
3rd of 7 South Central Regional  
4th of 6





**Opposite left:** Cara Pameroy competes in the beam portion of a match against University of Illinois-Chicago. Pameroy received a score of 9.775 on the beam, helping the Illini defeat UIC, 195.625 to 193.975.

*Photo by B. Diefenbach*

**Opposite right:** The women's gymnastics team gets fired up before a meet.

*Photo by J. Birnbaum*

**Above:** Illinois gymnast Krystal Melcarek performs on the uneven parallel bars.

*Photo by A. Babcock*



• 2006-2007

# FIGHTING ILLINI

TEAM PHOTOS



## VARSITY CHEERLEADING

**Front row:** Assistant Coach Amy Glenn, Sarah Presser, Tennille Waggoner, Katie Warrell, Katie Harden, Maghan Wilkasz, Andrea Kowalisyn, Natalie Keable, Kelli Kluga, Elissa Glavash, Kristin Rine, Heather Mahashek, Anne Fennell, Morgan Martin, Head Coach Stephanie Record. **Back row:** Assistant Coach Nick Gaines, John Flanagan, John Palivka, David Plumley, Drew Sullivan, Scott Anthony, Dean Ordzawialy, Jim Jackson, Dan Ellis, Jamie Ellis, Sean Kline, Jimmy Winters. Not pictured: Assistant Coach Brooke Hartman.





## MEN'S BASEBALL

**Front row:** Dominic Altabelli, Nick Stackwell, Joke Mathis, Craig Lutes, Lars Davis, Donny Schroeder, Mike Rohde, Tanner Roark, Luke Obukawicz. **Second row:** Ryon Snowden, Joe Banadonna, Blake Fairchild, Jake Taahey, Aoran Ifft, Matt Dittman, Lee Zerrusen, Billy Barrett, Scott Shaw. **Third row:** Ben Reeser, Aaron Martin, Daniel Webb, Ryon Hastings, Omar Kadir, Brandon Wikoff, Kyle Hudson, Brian Lang. **Back row:** Volunteer Assistant Coach Dave Schultz, Assistant Coach Ken Westray, Head Coach Dan Hartleb, Joe Mercuria, Michael Giller, Kevin Mansan, Blake Hopkins, Jonathan Smiley, Mike Stonkiewicz, Chris Montgomery, Ty Milner, Mike Sterk, Shawn Roof, Assistant Coach Eric Snider, Volunteer Assistant Coach Brett Herbisan, Athletic Trainer Mott Fitterer. Not pictured: Derrick McPhearsan.



## WOMEN'S SOFTBALL

**Front row:** Makenzie Smith, Lano Armstrong, Katie Gaitras, Vicky Brown, Braake Buzard, Mally Lawhead, Sarah Bryers. **Back row:** Angelena Mexicano, Ashley Wright, Bailey Behrens, Christine Christapaulas, Claire DeVreese, Brittany Koester, Shanna Diller, Kisten Mortin, Katrina Rass, Sydney Lisy, Hope Howell.





## MEN'S BASKETBALL

**Front row:** Athletic Trainer Al Martindale, Chester Frasier, Calvin Brack, Trent Meacham, Rich McBride, Chris Hicks, Jamar Smith, Strength Coach Jimmy Price. **Back row:** Assistant Coach Jay Price, Assistant Coach Wayne McClain, Head Coach Bruce Weber, Brian Randle, Shaun Pruitt, Brian Carlwell, Richard Semrau, CJ Jackson, Marcus Arnold, Warren Carter, Graduate Assistant Coach Jeremy Izza, Assistant to the Head Coach Gary Nottingham, Assistant Coach Tracy Webster.



## WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

**Front row:** Megan Nyquist, Chelsea Gordon, Assistant Coach Blaine Patterson, Assistant Coach Stacie Terry, Head Coach Theresa Grentz, Associate Head Coach Marsha Frese, Assistant to the Head Coach Diane Hobin, Lori Bjork, Rebecca Harris. **Back row:** Lacey Simpson, Victoria Arndt, Erin Wigley, Jenna Smith, Erin McCarthy, Audrey Taban, Stephanie Chelleen, Danyel Crutcher, Danielle Gratton.





## MEN'S GOLF

**Front row:** Kyle Hosick, Zach Barlow, Andy Shiels, Mark Ogren, Frank Alafaginis, Patrick Nagle. **Back row:** Clayton Parkhill, Matt Haffman, Head Coach Mike Small, Jan Krick, Danny Zimmerman, Andy Mack.



## WOMEN'S GOLF

**Front row:** Casey Burden, Kristin Kallergis, Kelsey O'Neal, Seul Ki Park, Christine Caak. **Back row:** Undergraduate Assistant Coach Megan Gadfrey, Head Coach Renee Slane, Meghan Naik, Stephanie Mory, Nancy Featherstone.





## MEN'S GYMNASTICS

**Front row:** Assistant Coach Adam Pummer, Assistant Jan Valdez, Head Coach Yashi Hayasaki, Assistant Coach Justin Spring. **Second row:** Tyler Yamauchi, Wes Haagensen, Tyler Williamsan, Kyle Podera, Brian Liscovitz, Chris Silcax, Nick Stanga, Athletic Trainer Angie Miller. **Back row:** Chad Wiest, Luke Stannard, Michael Bayer, Ross Brodley, Brian Hulbert, Chris Lung, Jon Drollinger.



## WOMEN'S GYMNASTICS

**Front row:** Marijko Bottermon, Nicole Cawort, Ursula Orazco, Lindsey Smith, Laura Woolf, Julie Croll. **Back row:** Cora Pameray, Melisso Singer, Sarah Schmidt, Kim Kruk, Donye Botterman, Lori Hamilton, Krystal Melcorek, Michelle McGrady.





## WOMEN'S SOCCER

**Front row:** Paula Faherty, Shannan McDannell, Kristy Weeks, Christina Sahly, Quinn Reynolds, Jessica Bayne, Courtney Bell, Head Coach Janet Rayfield. **Second row:** Chichi Nweke, Marti Desjarlais, Eva Strickland, Lindsey Carstens, Ashley Varns, Alexandra Kapicka, Brittany Garrett, Jessica Levitt, Charlotte Coake, Assistant Coach Dale Armstrong. **Back row:** Student athletic trainer Jessica Humbach, Manager Billy Barmes, Athletic Trainer Caroline Jahnsan, Jackie Santacaterina, Jamie Alvis, Emily Pickard, Mary Therese McDannell, Kara Gastisha, Emily Zurrer, Ella Masar, Assistant Coach Marcia McDermatt, Student Assistant Coach Natasha Karniski, Student Athletic Trainer Sherrie Knutsan.



## WOMEN'S SWIMMING & DIVING

**Front row:** Head Coach Sue Navitsky, Sr. diver Jackie Bain, Fr. Amy Farsberg, Sr. Jessica Rathenberg, Jr. diver Abbey Bernarda, Sa. All Keehn, Fr. Margan Gilman, Fr. diver Kyla Bachtell. **Second row:** Fr. Emily Mycyk, Sa. Katie Theissen, Sr. Meghan Farrell, Jr. Meghan Bradley, Fr. Jen Ivarsan, Sa. Lindsey Shirley, Fr. CeCe Marizu, Fr. Andrea Grandcalas. **Third row:** Fr. Kelly Smithwick, Fr. Amy Jahnsan, Fr. Anna Jahnsan, Jr. Mallary Craft, Jr. Kelly Funk, Sr. Leigh Ann Tracy, Fr. diver Nikki Spillane, Fr. Kristen Klæckener. **Fourth row:** Fr. Courtney Spivak, Sa. Lana Baneva, Fr. Annie Nawak, Sr. Caroline Moore, Jr. Kellie Stevens, Sa. Marissa Clapp, Sr. Michelle Grandcalas, Sa. diver Lauren Griffin. **Back row:** Diving Coach Chris Waters, Sa. Mallary Meyer, Sr. Becca Paetz, Fr. Bailey Hatch, Sr. Barbie Viney, Associate Head Coach Steve Farnau.





## MEN'S TENNIS

Assistant Coach Kent Kinneer, Marc Spicijoric, Brandon Davis, Kevin Anderson, Ryan Rowe, Sasho Khorkevitch, GD Jones, Billy Heiser, Head Coach Brad Dancer.



## WOMEN'S TENNIS

Head Coach Michelle Dasso, Momei Qu, Leigh Finnegan, Megan Fudge, Kristina Minor, Emily Wong, Shivoni Davé, Alejandra Mezo Cuadra, Assistant Coach David Emery.





## MEN'S TRACK & FIELD

**Front Row (L-R):** Jacob Nachel, Dan Stock, Matt Flahery, Allister Ross, Pierre Bush, Jeremy Stevens, Jon Houseworth, Scott Phelps. **Second Row (L-R):** Steve Rogers, Maciej Sniegorski, Scott Puhse, Brad Topol, Sean Muldoon, Brian Beaire, Jay Marcum, Joey Hodge, Durrell Williams, Anthony Young, Brian Pratt, Coach Mike Turk, Coach Wendel McRaven. **Third Row (L-R):** Michael Murray, Alex Genseal, Matthew McHugh, Andrew Zollner, Russell Ward, Jon Popejoy, Brian Dryer, Jason Bill, Casey Fannesbeck, John Adamczyk, Jeremy Krudinier, Dominique Worsley, Nick Brown, Justin Aronson, Robert Hoch, Timothy Maier, Tim Entwistle, Paul Johnson, John McAndrew, Tim Kelly, Adrian Walker, Michael Kelly, Travis Leonard, Trameil Smith, Head Coach Wayne Angel. **Fourth Row (L-R):** Trent Hoerr, Isaiah Robbins, Robert Pykosz, Eric DiSilvestro, James Keller, Greg Shroka



## WOMEN'S TRACK & FIELD

**Front row:** Jamie Bruea, Amanda Pintaro, Theresa Brokaw, Tiara Armstrong, Verity Armstrong, Mary Pat Choules, Angela Bizzarri, Abby Shunk, Kaitlyn Eisner-Poor, Pam Wolf, Allison Dale, Stephanie Simms. **Second row:** Liz Mengyan, Olabisi Adesida, Shannon Phelan, Alondra Cooper, Alecia Beckford-Stewart, Edirin Davis, Stephanie Otuwa, Ashley Thomas, Rachel Wyffels. **Third row:** Stephanie Meyers, Katie Coppin, Katie Engel, Carlene Robinson, Samantha Scheidd Egger, Jackie Ziegler, Yvonne Mensah, Camile Robinson, Kelly Smith, Cassie Hunt, Taylor Bennett, Jamie Kuhl. **Fourth row:** Paris Streeter, Jacqui Aubert, Rachel Hernandez, LeNeisha Waller, Kristina Jones, Ashley Whittaker, Mariesa Greene, Tiffany Nesfield, Danyelle Michelini, Briana Cunningham, Cathryn Carroll, Maggie Carroll. **Back row:** Coach Karen Harvey, Head Coach Cary Winckler, Coach Tonja Buford-Bailey.





## WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

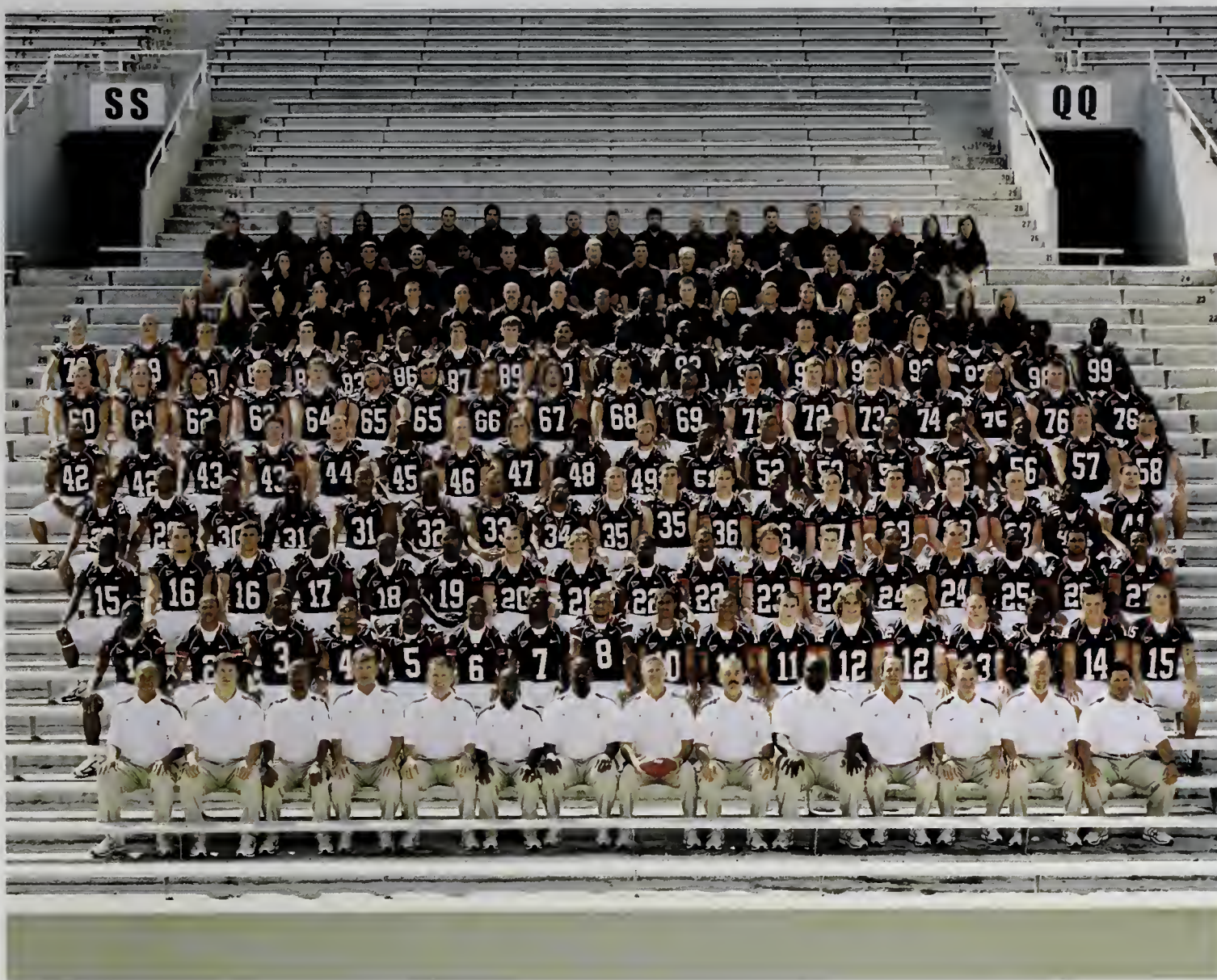
**Front row:** Beth Vrdsky, Ashley Edinger, Lizzie Bozzetto, Amelio Coleman, Amy Polosh, Stephanie Obermeier, Kristine Anderson.  
**Back row:** Don Hordin, Jen Oldenburg, Megon Macdonold, Rochel Henderson, Vicky Brown, Koyoni Turner, Stephonie Alde, Kylie McCulley, Assistant Cooch Mory Hombly, Troiner Rony Bollord, Assistant Cooch Kevin Hombly.



## MEN'S WRESTLING

**Front row:** John Dergo, Pot Brownson, Mott Hording, Ben Zulouf, Potrick Bond, John Wise, Andy Greenowolt, Joke Normon, Dove Gleissner, Nick Guido, John Shoub, Ben Friedl. **Second row:** Troy Tiropelle, Mork Lukozewski, Roger Smith-Bergsrud, Don Monzello, Mike Poeto, Donny Reynolds, Andrew Lukonich, Cossio Pero, Clint Arlis, Mott Winterholter, Clinton Polz, Adom Domonico  
**Back row:** Dolton Bullord, Jimmy Kennedy, John Deneen, Joe Gomez, Joel Korr, Gobe Flores, Don Monzello, Ryon Nollen, Joey Kotowski, Mott Lee, Seon Reynolds, Jim Comfort.





## ILLINI FOOTBALL

**Front row:** Llyad Richards, Director of Football Operations; Ben Miller, offensive graduate assistant; Dina Dawson, outside receivers coach; Jim Pry, inside receivers coach; Ed Warinner, offensive line coach; Reggie Mitchell, running backs coach; Mike Lacksley, offensive coordinator; Ron Zoak, head coach; Vince Okruch, defensive coordinator; Tom Sims, defensive line coach; Dan Disch, special teams/linebackers coach; Curt Mallory, defensive secondary coach; Steve Sigler, defensive graduate assistant; Lou Hernandez, strength and conditioning coach. **Second row:** Vantae Davis, Bryant Creamer, Morques Wilkins, Derrick McPhearsan, Roshord Mendenhall, Chris Jones, Isaiah "Juice" Williams, DaJuan Warren, Eddie McGee, Joe Margan, Michael Boilen, Billy Garza, Jacob Hendee, Jason Reda, Will Judson, Cody Mullen, Tim Brasic. **Third row:** Chris Duvall, Michael Haamanowonui, Mark Venegani, Jeff Cumberland, Alon Boll, Quintin Scott, Garrett Edwards, Kyle Hudson, Shariff Abdullah, Kieran Frazier, Drew McMahan, Jack Eastman, Charles Bailey, Edgor Maurans, Justin Sanders, E.B. Halsey, Antania Gully. **Fourth row:** Dere Hicks, Jady Ellis, Pierre Thomas, Travon Bellamy, Darane Edwards, Justin Harrison, Sam Parter, Walter Mendenhall, Conor Lucas, Michael Cklamvski, Jared Bosch, Morurice Haney, Kyle Yelton, Mike Mucha, Conor Gillen, Tad Keely, Antania Steele, Russ Weil. **Fifth row:** Kevin Mitchell, Justin Ijei, Som Carson, Nick Levanti, Britt Miller, Rodney Pittman, Tyler Rause, J. Leman, Remand Willis, Kyle Knezetic, Anthony Tharnhill, Jon Asamooh, Dustin Jefferson, Rahkeem Smith, Anteria Jackson, Sirod Williams, J.J. Simmans, Bryson Whalen. **Sixth row:** Ryan McDanald, Adom Wilk, Eric Black, Will Bergen, Martin O'Donnell, Jash Narris, Brandon Frey, Randall Hunt, Matt Maddox, Jim LoBante, Akim Millington, Jack Wall, Ben Amundsen, Mike Nobolotny, Brandon Jordan, Immanuel Chu, Mike Ware, Charles Myles. **Seventh row:** Ryon Palmer, James Ryan, Alex Reavy, Will Davis, Frank Lenti, Jacob Willis, Greg McClendon, Spencer Jensen, Tom Sullivan, Antania James, Derek Walker, Arthur Bayd, Melvin Alaeze, David Lindquist, Doug Pilcher, Chris Norwell, Clay Nurse, Xavier Fulton, Jerry Brawn. **Eighth row:** Sports Medicine Jenna Singer, Julia Sheen, Emi Motsuna, Claire DePrima, Koren Rath, T.J. Dexter, Dave Bugalski, graduate assistant trainer; Dr. Robert Gurtler, Team Physician; Matt Fitterer, assistant athletic trainer; Adrian Melendez, head football athletic trainer; Bryan Cunningham, assistant athletic trainer; Dr. Jeff Kyrauc, Linda Lenover, team nurse; Matt Kacialek, Harry Lobb, Emily Whabrey, Lindsey Otte, Ebony Janes, Kote Baldwin, Amber Nagle. **Ninth row:** Alison Grady, Danielle Dietz, Mike Wojcikowski, Matt Milazza, Hans Malebrauche, Luke Weaver, graduate assistant equipment manager; Kyle Cray, assistant equipment manager; Andy Dixon, head equipment manager; Trent Chesnut, football equipment manager; John Birdsell, assistant equipment manager; Steve Starwalt, phone technician; Erik Burns, Ben Fard, Kyle Lewis, Mike Leach. **Back row:** Mike Zagorski, student assistant; Morcellus Casey, team chaplain; Kristen Kane, academic advisor; Corla Suber, learning specialist; Dave Duttan, academic advisor; Chris Pazan, student assistant coach; Chad Rase, volunteer strength and conditioning coach; Daryl Dizon, assistant strength and conditioning coach; Tray Hattan, assistant strength and conditioning coach; Zoch Wamack, assistant strength and conditioning coach; Taylor Margan, co-video coordinator; Greg Bruner, co-video coordinator; Brent Harper, Ryon Ochs, R.J. Heninger, Keenon Jahnstan, Jeremy Cladfelder, quality control coach; Babbi Duval, associate recruiting coordinator; Casey Ludwig, assistant recruiting coordinator.



RETRO

FIT





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● Looking back on a year of fitting into groups & greeks at Illinois.





# daily illini

INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

**year founded:**

1871

**circulation:**

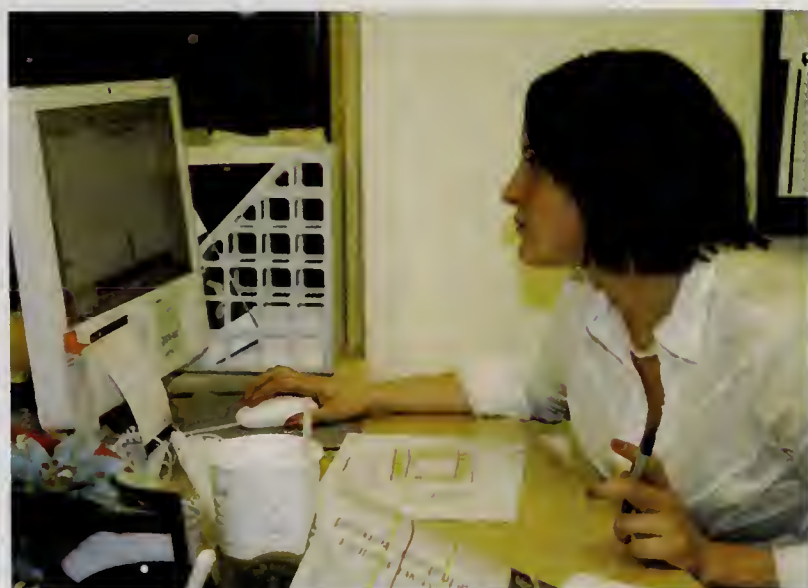
20,000 people

**students work in:**

- News
- Sports
- Opinions
- Features
- Editing
- Page design
- Photography
- Graphic design
- Advertising
- Circulation
- Promotions
- Production
- Business







**Opposite top:** Vincent Lee, Editor-in-Chief: Is he working hard, or hardly working?

**Opposite bottom:** Editorial adviser Melinda Miller talks to alum Ken Poulson, Editor of *USA Today*.

**Top left:** Photographer Josh Birnboum receives advice from an Illini Media alum.

**Top right:** Rick Wiltfong, former Editorial Production Manager of the Doily Illini, left Illini Media this year. Best wishes to him and his rubber band ball.

**Center:** Vosonth Sridhoron, Nick Escobar and Katie O'Connell of the editorial staff toast to Illini Media's new building.

**Left:** Donielle Goines, managing editor reporting and writing, mops out the special page for the Illini Media Company's building dedication weekend.



# daily illini departments



## CLASSIFIEDS STAFF

**Front row:** Mary Pat Schultz, Jessie Haramis, Beth Perillia, Melissa Straud, Mary Fran Wiley.  
**Back row:** Justin Kavach, Cady Meyer, Christina Giannini, Julia Bracks.

## ADVERTISING STAFF

**Front row:** Marissa Carvallis, Christine Janda, Kristy Fiala, Lauren Naane, Stephanie Taylor, Sarah Judd, James Cho.  
**Second row:** Eric Heyen, Paul Castello, Chris Mitchell, Fareedan Omar, Alei Caak.  
**Back row:** Grady Behrens, Liz Sablich, Mark Nattier, Katie Wallenfarg, Suzanne Ekblad, Scott Downs, Elizabeth Yuan.

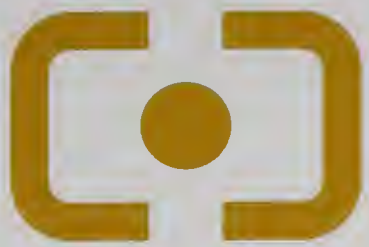


## CREATIVE WORKS

Sharan Steed, Jan Huff, Jake Wolff, Justin Striebel.







# wpgu 107.1 fm

STUDENT-RUN RADIO STATION

**year founded:**  
1967

**format:**

College alternative

**students work in:**

- On-air programming
- Engineering
- News & sports
- Promotions

WPGU-FM is the student radio station of the University of Illinois. Its modern rock format draws and audience from all over Champaign-Urbana. WPGU is a commercial radio station that runs 24 hours a day, 7 days a week with live student disc jockeys. Popular on-air personalities, remote broadcasts from various locations in Champaign-Urbana, regular feature programming and exciting contests and promotions are just some of the reasons that the University community has stayed tuned in to WPGU for more than 30 years.



**Above:** WPGU managers Mike Zonde, Scott Adometz, Brett Westnedge, Fi Ferrer, Brock Donovan and Beth Rehn meet Meat Loaf at the 2006 Conclave Convention in Minneapolis

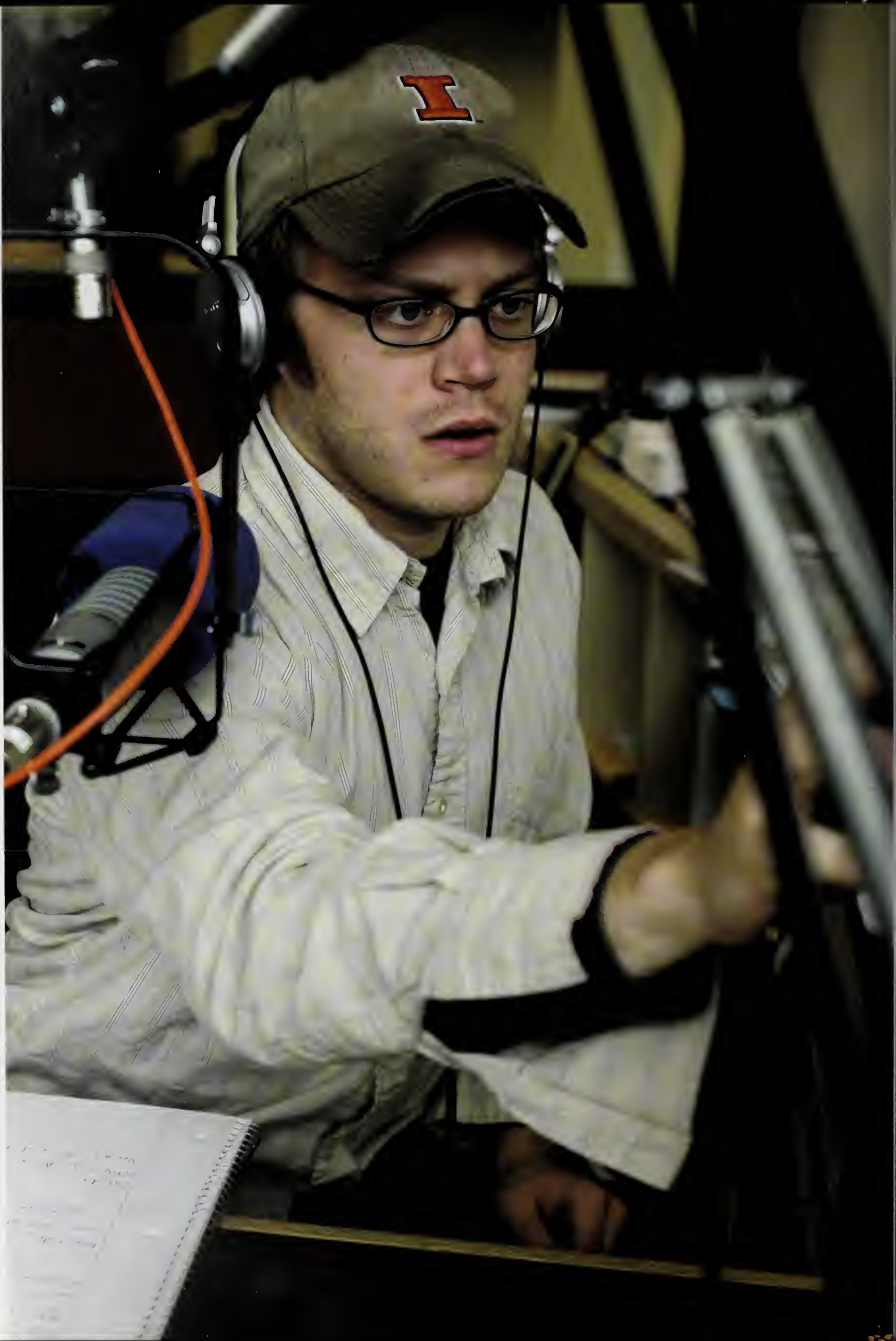
**Far left:** Fi Ferrer and Britto Vontreuse hang out outside the WPGU studio.

**Center:** Scott Adometz and Poul Rotter work in the new studio.

**Left:** WPGU staffers run a remote on location at 512 E. Green.

RETROFIT  
wpgu 107.1 fm

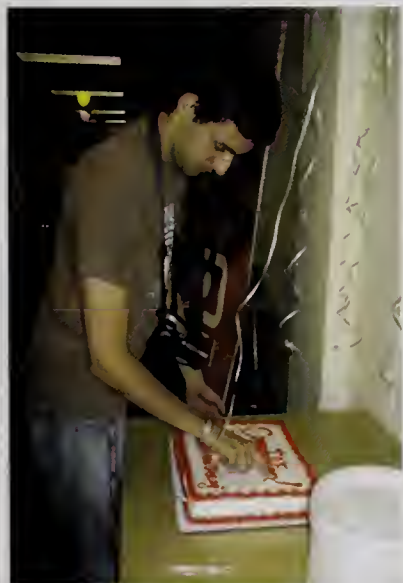




RETROFIT  
wpgu 107.1 fm

by  
and  
co





**Opposite:** Jeff Peterson, senior in LAS, hosts the 'Flashback Cafe' radio show in the WPGU studio. "This is the best job in the world," said Peterson. *Photo by Patrick Traylor*

**Top left:** Mike Zande, Beth Rehn and Scott Adametz judge a Halloween costume contest at Rock's.

**Top right:** A WPGU employee hangs out in the new Illini Media building

**Center:** Jon Honsen honors the Illini Media Hall of Fame inductees during Building Dedication Weekend.

**Bottom left:** Scott Adametz cuts the cake at the WPGU studio dedication day.

**Bottom right:** Lead singer of Everclear Art Alexakis plays a set in the studio.





# buzz

## WEEKLY ENTERTAINMENT MAGAZINE

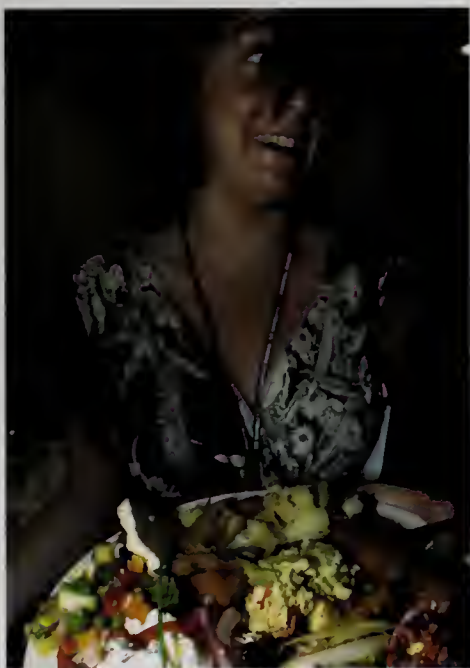
**year founded:**  
1998

**students work in:**

- Writing
- Editing
- Photography
- Graphic design
- Page design

Buzz is the Daily Illini's weekly entertainment magazine. Every Thursday, Buzz helps readers gear up for the weekend, with anything and everything that is entertainment in Champaign-Urbana. Film, television, music and theatre reviews, a calendar of events, feature stories on the local entertainment scene and several annual "theme" issues are just a few of the reasons to read Buzz every week. Student working for Buzz get chance to interview and photograph many of the area's biggest names in entertainment, as well as a few more famous faces, such as Hugh Hefner and Robert Ebert—both University alumni—and Frank Black and Moby. Students do it all, working as writers, critics, photographers, designers and editors. The Buzz has already won awards on the national level for its innovative design and outstanding content.





**Opposite:** Buzz staff members celebrate the "Best Of" issue at the Illini Media Building on Nov. 10., 2006. From left to right: Austin Happel, Elyse Russa, Manica Betel, Renee Okumuro, Erin Scattberg, Tatyana Safranovo, Annette Ganzalez, Anna Stothom.

**Top:** Anna Statham, Tatyana Safranovo, Austin Happel, Manico Betel, Renee Okumuro, Elyse Russa, and Erin Scattberg

**Left center:** Erin Scattberg fills her plate at the Illini Media Building Dedication Bonquet.

**Center:** Tatyana Safranovo took over as Buzz editor-in-chief during the 2007 spring semester.

**Right center:** Elyse Russa and Erin Scattberg pose at the "Best Of" issue celebration.

**Left:** Anna Statham and Elyse Russo, members of the Buzz editorial staff.





# illio yearbook

## EDITORIAL STAFF

**year founded:**  
1894

**publishes:**

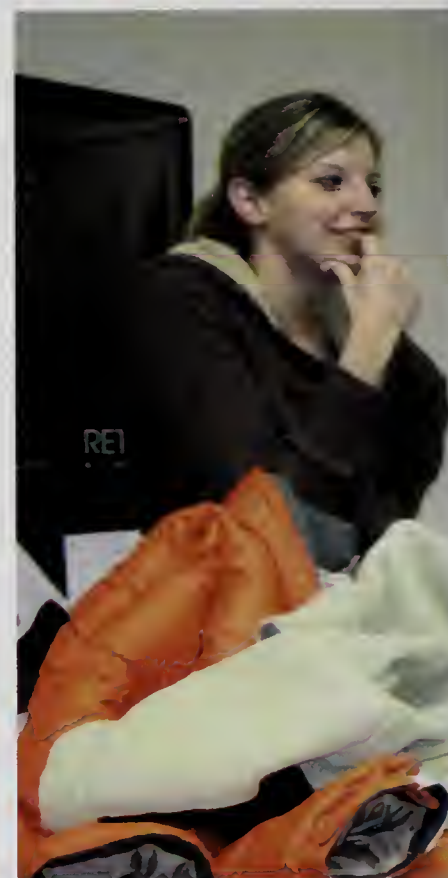
Annually

**students work in:**

- Writing
- Editing
- Design
- Photography
- Art direction

The Illio is the official yearbook at the University of Illinois. With an annual publication of around 400 pages, each volume provides a unique look at life during a year at the University. Since 1894, the Illio has received recognition and numerous awards for its design and content on a national, regional and local level.

The 2005 Illio won a Gold Crown award from the Columbia Scholastic Press Association and was again a finalist for the 2006 Illio. Writers cover a variety of campus events, while photographers visually capture student life through their own perspective. The editorial staff works together to edit, design and construct the collective edition, using cutting-edge, industry standard software.







**Opposite top:** The 2006-2007 Illio Editorial staff. Front row: Jorie Johnson, Erin Foley, Jessica Elmore, Brittony Bekas. Second row: Su Roy, Sarah Kowolis, Clara Kim, Ashley Sheriff. Third row: Jamie John, Jessica Radogno, Lyndsey Groth, Deni Stritch, Jessica Miller. Back row: Eric Schulz, Don Wei, Alex Robb, Adam Swiatek.

**Opposite bottom:** When editor-in-chief Lyndsey Groth gets stressed out, she just tells everyone, "I'm over it."

**Top left:** Index Chairwoman Jessica Miller, bottom right, gives Deni Stritch, left, and Sarah Kowolis a guided tutorial.

**Top right:** Illio enthusiast Adam Swiatek grabs his retro Zock Morris cellular to call Taylor Publishing and check on the book's production process.

**Far left:** Sports editor Erin Foley contemplates the number of pages she has to do for the next deadline, while intern editor Jorie Johnson crocks up during the staff meeting.

**Left:** Lyndsey Groth and designer Clara Kim stand proudly by the Illio booth on Quod Day.





# illio yearbook

## SALES & MARKETING STAFF

**year founded:**  
1894

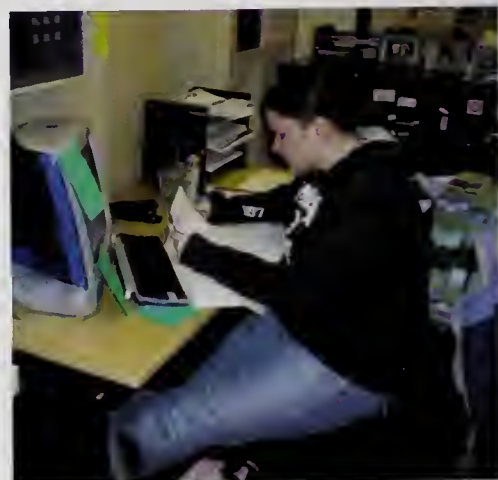
**publishes:**

Annually

**students work in:**

- Sales
- Marketing

The Illio is the official yearbook at the University of Illinois. The Illio's marketing staff is responsible for scheduling senior portrait sittings, marketing for book sales, pages sales in the Groups and Greeks section and other divisions of advertising. This year's staff consisted of four representatives and one Marketing Director.



**Top:** The 2006-2007 Illia Marketing staff: Marissa Lee, Emily Beatty, Ashley Knuppel, Jayme Swift, Sarah Cain.

**Above:** Illia Marketing Director, Jayme Swift, catches up on weekly sales.

**Left:** Jayme Swift, Marissa Lee and Emily Beatty during an Illia marketing social event.





# technograph

ENGINEERING QUARTERLY MAGAZINE

**year founded:**  
1885

**publishes:**  
Four times a year

**distribution:**  
Engineering campus  
and over 1,000 high  
school libraries

**students work in:**

- Writing
- Editing
- Design
- Photography
- Business

The Illinois Technograph is the University of Illinois' award-winning engineering magazine. Since 1885, the Technograph has covered the cutting edge of science and technology and the University and throughout the world. This student-produced magazine is packed with informative articles on all aspects of engineering and new technology, and features profiles on leaders in the field. The Technograph gives engineering students a unique chance to express themselves and their interests on the printed page. The Technograph is published four times during the school year and is distributed free of charge on the engineering campus. More than 1,000 copies are sent to high school libraries across the state of Illinois.

**Above:** Front row: Liz Weber, Declan Halzman, Eric Anderson, Erik Watring. Back row: Suzie Margan, Wesley DeBerry, Gavin Rehkemper, Satya Shanmugham, Cyril K. Chan





# illini media

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Illini Media Board of Directors meets regularly to make important decisions to ensure the financial and media success of the company. The board is comprised of four faculty members and four students from the University and must include one professor from the College of Communications and one professor from the College of Commerce. The board elects faculty members for four-year renewable terms, with one term expiring each spring.

The board hires and determines the salaries for the print general manager and broadcast general manager. The student managers are also selected by the board for one-year terms. These positions include: editor-in-chief and students sales manager of the Daily Illini; editor-in-chief and marketing director of the Illio; editor of the Technograph; and program director, news director and student sales manager at WPGU-FM.

### year founded:

1911

### original name:

Illini Publishing Company

### units:

- Buzz
- Daily Illini
- Illio
- Technograph
- WPGU 101.7 FM

### Illini Media Company Board

**Members:** Front row: Grody Behrens, Lyndsey Groth, Joyme Swift, Vincent Lee, Kote Pokorney, Erin Scottberg, Ano Bolotin. Back row: Brock Williams, Mory Cory, Susan Cohen, Eric Jung, Noah Snyder, Melinda Miller, Melisso Pasco, Troy Stonger, Tom Costello.





# illinois synchronized skating



**year founded:**  
2001  
**colors:**  
Blue & Orange

The Illinois Synchronized Skating team is a registered student organization that competes against other collegiate teams throughout the country at various competitions including Ann Arbor and Mid-Westerns.



"Skating is definitely the greatest and most important thing I have done at the University of Illinois. I have been proud to represent U of I and proud to say that this organization has excelled as a student run organization against a field of competitors that are all organized and choreographed by non-students."

**Top:** Rookie night scavenger hunt "Take a picture with employees on Green St." Pictured: Margaret, Apple Employee, Kirsten, Nicole, Apple Employee, Margan.  
**Above left:** The team after their fall exhibition. Back row: Katie, Maggie, Val, Nicole, Casey, Marissa, Kendall, Kirsten, Devan. Middle Row: Audrey, Anna, Amanda, Margan, Carina, Carah, Elyse, Mel. Front row: Margaret, Lauren, Meghan, Cristina, Liara  
**Above:** "It's Time To Start" From back left to right: Marissa, Cristina, Devan, Anna, Casey, Val, Carah, Kirsten, Carina, Maggie, Katie, Liara, Margan, Nicole, Margaret, Lauren, Mel, Elyse, Kendall, Meghan.  
**Left:** Day trip to Apple Orchard Pictured left to right: Cristina, Amanda, Devan, Elyse, Marissa, Casey, Kirsten, Val, Carah.



# panhellenic council

**year founded:**  
1902

**symbols:**  
Pinecone & Duck  
**nickname:**  
PHC

**colors:**  
Crimson & Royal

Panhellenic Council sponsors the Big Brothers Big Sisters Bowl for Kids' Sake each year. This event helps to provide national support and funding to the Big Brothers Big Sisters Program.



**President:**

Kimberly Verest

**VP Internal:**

Brenda Lo

**VP Recruitment:**

Annie Carlson

**VP Judicial:**

Shanna Pyers

**VP Risk Mgmt:**

Emily Eisenkramer

**VP Scholarship:**

Sarah Becker

**VP Service:**

Katherine Becker

**VP Finance:**

Joy Mkrdichian

**VP Public Relations:**

Courtney

Hildenbrand

**VP Development:**

Jessica Bialorucki

**Top:** Panhellenic Executive Board of the annual Bowl for Kids' Sake philanthropy.

**Center:** Four Council Transition Dinner in November.

**Left:** Brenda, Emily, Joy, Katherine, Sarah, Courtney, Annie, Shanna, Kimberly, and Jessica of this year's Greek Oscars.

"Being President of the UIUC Panhellenic Council has been a huge growing experience and it has been an honor to be President of the largest women's organization on campus. Over the past year our community has donated ten's of thousands of dollars and hours to the greater Champaign-Urbana community philanthropically and through service, we have welcomed in the largest amount of new members ever, and learned a great deal about the direction our organization needs to go. We've enacted sustainable change and are excited for where the sorority community will grow in to."

—Kim Verest



# 4H house

**year founded:**  
1934

**symbol:**

Sweet Pea

**nickname:**

Etas

**colors:**

Green & White

4H House supports Journey. Journey is in honor of Jennifer and Jackie Esworthy, house sisters, who were killed in a car accident by a drunk driver. Our mission is to keep repeat drunk drivers off the road and keep loved ones safe. 4H House sponsors a bake sale in the fall and a campus-wide Euchre tournament in the spring for this cause.



**Top: 80's Flashback:** Frant: Bethany Kramer, Carrie Shaner, Allisan Katecki, Jessica Sugderi, Katie Baesche. Back: Erica McClure, Erika Anderson, Laura Wallace, Cassie Shaner.

**Above: 4H House Women.** Frant Row: Erica McClure, Allisan Katecki, Amberlyn Rowley, Mally Baurland, Ashley Hanold, Dana Daugherty, Lynnea Rasendale, Kathy Barnes, Jenna Halland, House Mather Carol, Stacey Dehlinger, Darathy Spencer, DeAnna Schertz, Lindsey Schneider, Mickey Trimble, Jessica Sugden. Second Row: Erika Anderson, Ryann Newell, Sarah England, Jessica Lack, Erin Spaur, Cary Henkel, Jackie Butler, Danielle Swanson, Mary Irelan, Stephanie Witt, Rachel Smith, Rachel Baum, Cassie Shaner, Laura Wallace, Carrie Shaner, Bethany Kramer, Katie Baesche. Third Row: Emily Bakken, Rita Muehling, Janet Willis, Stacy Zuber, Jennifer Pe-

tersan, Raganne Newell, Abbie Lashbrook, Abby Sasse, Katie Knapp, Kristen Anderson, Julie Drendel, Darla Steele, Karen Nelson, Kristina Grebner, Tricia Chenaweth.

**Left: 4H Seniors.** Frant Row Rita Muehling, Amanda Drinkall, Stacy Zuber, Emily Bakken, Kristen Anderson, Janet Willis. Back Row: Abby Sasse, Megan Brubaker, Cary Henkel, Kristina Grebner, Hally Eichelberger, Katie Knapp, Karen Nelson.

**Bottom: Pledge Class of 2010.** Frant: Kristen Black, Ashley Hanold, Mickey Trimble, Stacey Dehlinger, Jenna Halland. Back: Amberlyn Rowley, DeAnna Schertz, Darathy Spencer, Carly Rakes, Lynnea Rasendale, Terra Kern, Mally Baurland, Dana Daugherty, Lindsey Scheider.

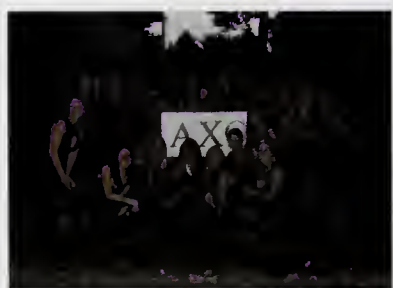


# alpha chi omega AXΩ

**year founded:**  
1885 at DePauw University  
**u of i founding date:**  
December 8, 1899  
**symbols:**  
The Golden Lyre

**nickname:**  
Alpha Chi's  
**colors:**  
Scarlet Red  
& Olive Green

This year Alpha Chi Omega held the fourth annual Camp Alpha Chi, a philanthropy event that raises money for its national philanthropy: Women Against Domestic Violence. In addition, Alpha Chi Omega also held a clothing drive for the Center for Women in Transition. Aside from supporting their national philanthropy, this year the women of Alpha Chi Omega also supported the troops in Iraq with not only monetary donations, but also by making packages for soldiers over seas.



**Above:** Alpha Chi Borndance 2006. Front Row: Moiren Beozley, Tine Kormo, Meggie Coyle, Melisso Sheller. Back Row: Heather Lodge, Jule Mommies, Kristo Gullberg, Pom Wyatt, Kelsey Lofstrond, Emily Wider, Lauren Conine.  
**Far left:** Alpha Chi Omega Seniors.  
**Center:** Spring Break in Acapulco, Mexico. Kristin Kosmin, Rondi Streng, Collie Whitson, Kate Limordi, Meggie Coyle, Kelsey Lofstrond, Gino Boti, Nicole Kouzoukos, Catherine Hennessey, Elyse Russo, Moiren Beozley.  
**Left:** Seniors before open house of recruitment.

"Whether it was by receiving exciting leadership opportunities, introducing me to my loving best friends, or helping me to be part of other organizations on campus, Alpha Chi Omega always provided me with the strong foundation I needed to be successful. I will always remember my time here at the University of Illinois as an Alpha Chi with great pride and happiness, knowing that my college experience couldn't have been any better."

—Joanna Hussey



# alpha gamma delta AΓΔ

**year founded:**  
1904 at Syracuse  
University  
**u of i founding  
date:**  
June 12, 1918

**symbols:**  
Squirrel, Red & Yellow Rose  
**nickname:**  
Alpha Gams  
**colors:**  
Red, Buff & Green

Alpha Gamma Delta's main philanthropy is Water Wars, a competition between teams involving games with shaving cream, water balloons, and slip 'n' slides. This supports a variety of needs, including juvenile diabetes.



**Above:** The seniors of Alpha Gamma Delta pose for a picture on bid day. They will all surely be missed!

**Far left:** Some of the seniors during our annual philanthropy named "Water Wars".

**Center:** The '08 pledge class during second invite of recruitment!

**Left:** The '09 pledge class during second invite of recruitment!

"Somewhere between conversations that last all night, sharing a bathroom with 72 girls, buying crazy outfits for exchanges, complaining about dinner, and laughing so hard I cried, I have found true friendship. For the past two years, Alpha Gamma Delta has become a place I call my home... and nothing beats living in a castle."

—Katie Kukielka



# alpha gamma rho AΓΡ

**year founded:**  
1904

**symbols:**  
Sickle, Sheath & Crescent

**nickname:**

Aggers

**colors:**  
Green & Gold

Alpha of Alpha Gamma Rho's annual philanthropy event is the Foxy Lady Contest. This activity features one contestant from each of the campus' 20 sororities. The Ladies prepare a short performance and answer questions. They are judged on their formal interview and presentation. The Foxy Lady contest is 32 years old; the oldest philanthropy event on campus.



**Left:** Alpha Gamma Rho: Class of 2007. Front Row: Aaron Orebaugh, Aaron Charlesworth, Ryan Fitzgerald, Josh Blickhan, Nathan Brown, Josh Maschhoff, Devin Cox. Second Row: Tyler Meier, Alex Stack, Patrick Cleary, Adam Sandburg, Tyler McClain, Mike Deppert, Phil Rincker. Back Row: Jared Brown, Daniel Lundeen.

**Bottom left:** Alpha Gamma Rho's champion homecoming parade float: This is the fifth consecutive year that AGR has won the float contest.

**Bottom right:** AGR traditionally puts many hours into decorating our chapter house for Christmas. The hard work produced a beautiful result this year, and a second straight victory in the campus light decoration contest.



"Alpha Gamma Rho has been a home away from home for us seniors. Our brothers have made us stronger men by instilling the values that AGR stands for."

—Jared Brown



# alpha gamma sigma ΑΓΣ

year founded:

1922

symbol:

The Plow

nickname:

IlliDell

colors:

Silver & Royal Blue

"The memories you gain from college will remain with you forever. These friends will be your best friends for the rest of your life. College is the main turning point in your life, that makes you, who you are."

—Travis Field



**Top left:** The 2006-2007 graduating seniors. Jason Wesselmann, Russell Jahnsan, Justin Bruns, Travis Field, Jason Suhmitz, Edward Bahlen, Dave Cochran

**Top right:** Our IlliDell Lil Sis Christmas Party.

**Above:** Our annual float trip in Shelbyville this past summer.

**Left:** The Fall 2006 IlliDell of Alpha Gamma Sigma





# alpha omicron pi AOTΠ



**year founded:**  
1897 at Columbia University  
**symbols:**  
Jacqueminot Rose, Sheaf of Wheat & Ruby  
**unofficial mascot:**  
Panda  
**nickname:**  
Alpha O's  
**colors:**  
Cardinal

AOPi has two philanthropy events a year - Mud Olympics and Run for the Roses. Mud Olympics, which won Most Outstanding Philanthropy at the 2006 Greek Oscars, goes to benefit the Lukemia / Lymphoma Society. Run for the Roses is an annual run/walk sponsored in the Spring by Iota chapter. We donate all proceeds from the race to the Arthritis Foundation for research. Since our first race 14 years ago, Iota chapter has contributed over \$20,000 to arthritis research!



**Top** The whole chapter welcomes the new member class of 2010 on Bid Day 2006 in front of the Alpha Omicron Pi house. (Senior members were on the balcony, sophomore and junior classes on the porch and the new members wearing pink on the lawn).

**Left center:** These Alpha Omicron Pi '09's took a moment for a picture during our 2006 Mud Olympics philanthropy event held in Fort Pork on Sept. 29.

**Right center:** The ladies are lined up and ready in the foyer of our house to greet the parties coming through for First Invitational during Formal Recruitment 2006.

**Bottom:** New Member Educators Alex Brodley and Katie Schwind pose at the Alpha Omicron Pi International Headquarters in Brentwood, Tenn.

"I can't imagine my life without the support of my sisters in Alpha Omicron Pi. These women have shown me true, unconditional, everlasting friendship."

—Alissa Wofel



# alpha phi AΦ



**year founded:**  
1872 at Syracuse  
University  
**u of i founding date:**  
1922  
**symbols:**  
Ivy Leaf  
**nickname:**  
A-Phi  
**colors:**  
Silver & Bourdeaux



**Top:** Seniors gathered together in the front hall of the Alpha Phi Costle to commemorate their last year of Formal Recruitment.  
**Center:** A group of junior and senior Alpha Phis took a quick picture by the Union building on Bid Day before welcoming the A-Phi '10s.  
**Bottom left:** The newly initiated Alpha Phi '10s on Bid Day.  
**Bottom right:** During the Philanthropy Round of Formal Recruitment, the Alpha Phi ladies wore red to promote the Red Dress Campaign and to help raise heart disease awareness among women.



# chi omega XΩ



**year founded:**  
1895  
**u of i founding date:**  
1900  
**colors:**  
Straw & Cardinal  
**symbol:**  
Owl  
**Nickname:**  
Chi O's

Chi Omega's main philanthropy is through the Make-A-Wish Foundation. They hold an annual talent show that features dancers, musicians, and singers. Last year we raised over \$18,000 and were able to grant 3 wishes. Recently they have started the Chi Omega and Theta Chi Tug-of-War philanthropy event.



"Chi Omega has opened a world of experience to me. I will never forget the friendships, sisterhood experiences, philanthropic events, and all the other crazy times I have had with Chi Omega."

—Karen Idseing



**Top:** Laurie Soderland, Abby Buckman, Morianne LaBelle, Megon Gaber, and Lizzy Cunningham of the new 2010 pledge class compete in the Chi Omega and Theta Chi Tug-of-War Philanthropy in which they took 2nd place.  
**Far left:** A group of Chi Omega ladies are getting pumped up to participate in the Sigma Phi Epsilon Jag-far-Jash philanthropy.  
**Above:** Karen Idstein, Laura Wright, Marie McNomara, Megan Harrison, Erica Lans and Beth Vaughn of the Senior & '10 pledge event.  
**Left:** Lizzie McElherne, Randi Lesniewski, Gianna Gatta and Jamie Lunt of the 2009 pledge class are preparing for the Make-A-Wish Variety Show.



# delta gamma ΔΓ



"To me, Delta Gamma represents all of the amazing experiences I have had these past few years. The friendships I have made, the opportunities I have been given, and the feeling of having a home away from home is irreplaceable."

—Jenny Hahn

## colors:

Bronze, Pink & Blue

## symbols:

Anchor & Cream-Colored  
Rose

## nickname:

Dee Gee's

Delta Gamma's philanthropic events all benefit the organization Service for Sight. To raise funds and awareness for this program we run a swim contest, a denim sale, ice cream social and a talent show. We love giving back to the community through all of the exciting events.



**Top:** Dee Gees on Bid Day

**Left:** The women of Delta Gamma dress to impress at a fall social event.

**Above:** Members of Delta Gamma enjoyed a night of ice skating as part of a sisterhood activity



# farmhouse fraternity

**year founded:**

1905

**u of i founding date:**

1914

**nickname:**

Frames

**colors:**

Green, White & Gold

In 2006-2007, the men of FarmHouse upheld their reputation on campus as one of the top fraternities. Several members attended our National Conclave in Nashville, TN where they attended leadership seminars and brotherhood events in August before classes began and 17 new members began down the path towards becoming a FarmHouse man. Our motto, "Builder of Men" was realized through many community service projects

throughout the community such as working at the Urbana Sweetcorn Festival, holding a fall cleanup for our neighbors in Urbana and cleaning our two mile stretch of highway in western Urbana. Members were also very active in clubs and organizations on campus such as Marching Illini, ACE Club, CFFA, Field and Furrow, American Fisheries Society, Illini Pullers, Illini Pride, Orange Krush, SAA and Alpha Tau Alpha, among others.



"In the spring, the men of FarmHouse look forward to our Senior Formal and exchanges. As a graduating senior, I am looking forward to finding a job and moving on to the phase of my life but I know I can always look back on these times at 809 as some of the best times of my life."

—Michael Butler



**Above:** Front Row: Brion Riddle, Christopher Roguso, Matthew Hulsizer, Wesley Wolbourn, Dustin Wolloce, Joshua Bruketto, Lucas Lavejay, Christopher Schirding. Second Row: Craig Kniepmann, Christopher Puls, Kirk Builta, Jeffrey Evers, Matthew Moodie, Michael Butler, Chad Pilcher, Ben Hugenberg, Robert Brines. Third Row: Samuel Strom, Scott Boker, Bruce Frank, Jim Melko, Calvin Groce, Michael Boo, Trentan Roder, Christopher Mossie, Aaron Book, Jordan Tate. Fourth Row: Andrew DeSutter, Daniel Rohe, Levi Welbourne, Bryon Roder, Justin Brawn, Ryon Bull. Fifth Row: Blake Bushmo, Nothom Kurfmon, Ryon Miller, Benjamin Briggs, Timothy Brontner. Back Row: Jason Buss, Durkin Young, Jim Goldenstein, Kevin Miller, Tyler Smith, Blake Ruebush, Doug Kofer.



# kappa kappa gamma KKG



**year founded:**  
1870 at Monmouth  
College  
**u of i founding date:**  
April 28, 1899  
**symbols:**  
Fleur-de-lis, Key, Owl  
**colors:**  
Light Blue & Dark Blue

In October, Kappa Kappa Gamma held their annual Kappatat Volleyball tournament. Numerous fraternity members & University of Illinois students competed while raising money for Habitat for Humanity. This past year we held a date auction and raised \$1100 for the Don Moyer Boys & Girls Club. We also received the "Outstanding Fundraiser" award from the association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP).



"Kappa isn't just a house, club, or hobby; it is something special in my life that helps me push forward. Friendships and opportunities that will be with me in life are because of my choice to make Kappa a part of me."

—Jessica Bialorucki

**Top:** The 2010 pledge class on Bid Day!

**Center:** The new pledge class was surprised to be playing games on Bid Day.

**Above left:** Kappa Kappa Gamma seniors.

**Above right:** Birthday celebration!

**Left:** The KKG Intramural Soccer Team was excited to win the championship for the second year in a row.



# psi upsilon ΨΥ



**year founded:**  
1833 at Union College  
**u of i founding date:**  
May 28, 1910  
**nickname:**  
Psi U  
**colors:**  
Garnet & Gold

Each year Psi U holds their annual philanthropy, The Sam Biardo Memorial Philanthropy, in memory of a lost brother due to a congenital heart problem. Each spring Psi U posts a booth on the quad & encourages students and faculty to sign the backs of their driver's license to become organ donors to help save people like Sam Biardo.



"I initially joined Psi Upsilon because of the brotherhood and friendship that I saw my brother receive. As I gained more education and experience at the University, Psi Upsilon offered leadership positions to allow me to grow into a better person. Along with leadership opportunities, Psi Upsilon created a great volunteering environment and allowed brothers to participate in service opportunities for the Champaign-Urbana community. As I begin to enter a new phase of my life, I know that the lessons learned at Psi Upsilon and the university will allow me to overcome any challenges I may face."

—Psi Upsilon senior



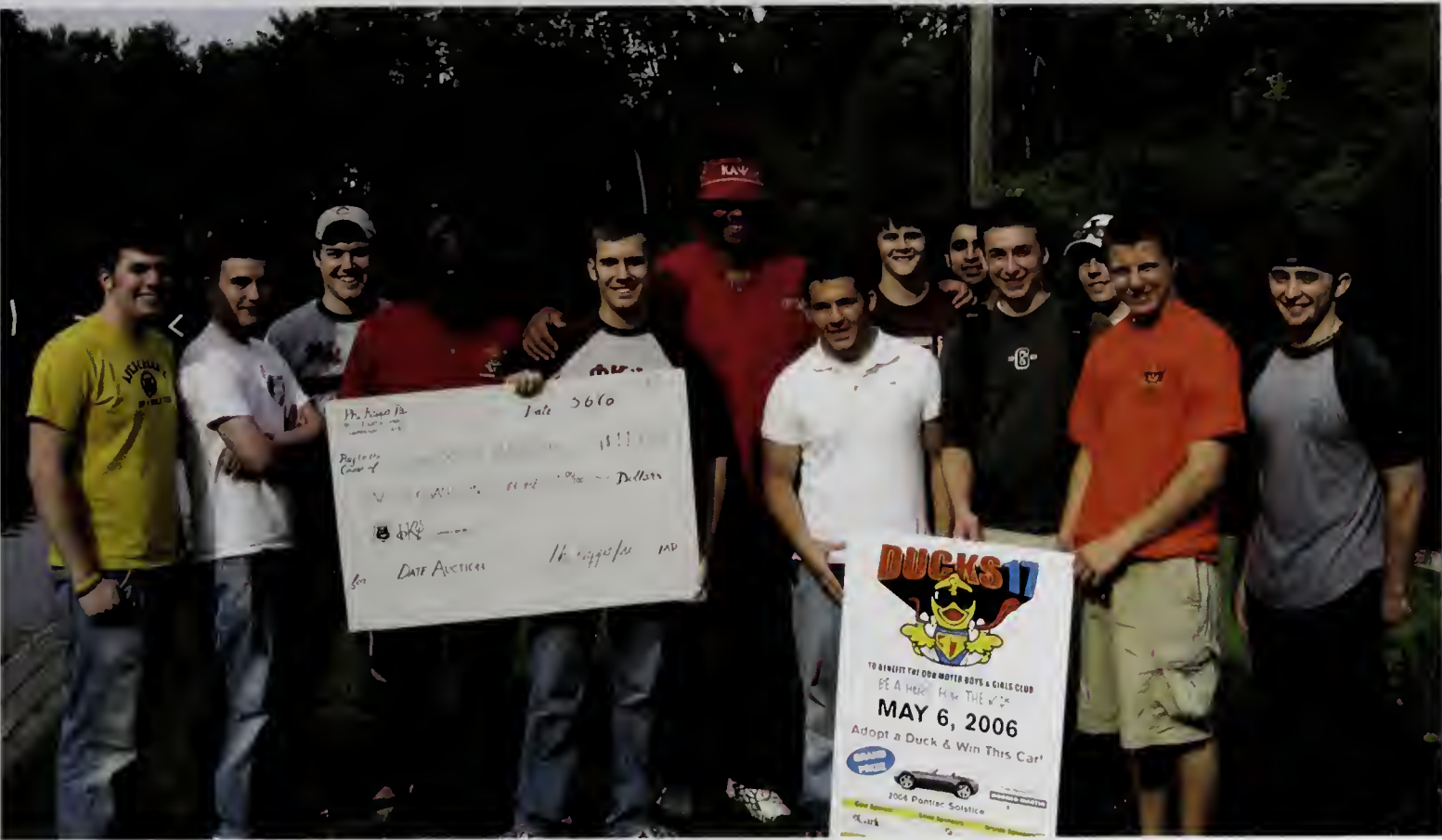
**Top:** Barry Cummings and Mike Smith celebrate the end of spring finals by building a snow tower on the front lawn of Psi Upsilon with snow generously provided by the ice arena.

**Center:** From left, brothers Andy Maxfield, Matt Turk, Matt Martinez, Dan Hower and Mark Baker are enjoying themselves at Psi Upsilon's annual formal dance.

**Bottom:** The 2010 pledge class of Psi Upsilon came together one last time before their initiation.



# phi kappa psi ΦΚΨ



**year founded:**  
1852 at Jefferson  
College  
**u of i founding date:**  
1904  
**nickname:**  
Phi Psi  
**colors:**  
Hunter Green &  
Cardinal Red

**Top:** We presented an \$1100 check to the Don Mayer Boy's & Girl's Club. Throughout the year we set up a partnership with them to tutor young students and provide gifts for kids with good grades.  
**Left center:** In October we revived an old tradition by having an island themed party, "Samoa". Highlights included hot tubs, two bands, a twenty-foot waterfall, and a smoking volcano, which was featured in the Daily Illini.  
**Right center:** Over spring break several of our brothers traveled down to Caba San Lucas to attend the American Leadership Academy.  
**Left:** Our brothers gathered in October to listen to the wisdom of Phi Psi Alum, Jerry Nelson. Jerry shared stories and gave advice about how to be successful in life.

"When considering what the house has meant to me over the past four years, it is not an abstract complicated conception of brotherhood which arises. It's something much more simple. Home."

—Conor Weber, member from 1927



# sigma kappa ΣK



**year founded:**  
1874 in Waterville,  
Maine  
**u of i founding date:**  
February 22, 1906  
**nickname:**  
Sig Kaps  
**colors:**  
Lavender & Maroon

Each spring we hold a kickball tournament, each fall we sell lollipops on the quad and we usually co-sponsor at least one philanthropy event with a fraternity. The proceeds from all these activities go to the Alzheimer's association and benefit Alzheimer's research. In the fall, we also have a week of giving dedicated to service, during which we donate gifts to nursing homes, deliver flowers to our alumni, and clean up trash from a part of campus.



**Top:** Members of Sigma Kappa.  
**Center:** University of Illinois Urbano-Champaign and Eastern Illinois University Sigma Kappas participating in the 2006 Memory Walk in order to raise funds for the Alzheimer's Association.

**Bottom left:** Korin Stakke, Daphne Culp, Liz Farristall, Sarah Priven and Lesley Fritz enjoy the atmosphere during their saphomare/junior night at reindeer ranch in which they went on hay rides and traveled through a corn maze.

**Bottom center:** Christine St. Leger, Stephanie Rehm, Jessico Raque and Melissa Schwerha take one last photo before getting ready for their fashion show during their Fall 2006 recruitment.

**Bottom right:** Janine Westlund, Kotie Maran, Marissa Carvallis, Stefanie Worning, Haley Drake, Nicole Cax, Kotie Strle, Sarah Baunach, Bianca Reggi, Nykky Haurself, Martha Reggi and Katie Newman. Some of the girls get ready to celebrate their new pledge class on the quad before Bid Day.

"Without a doubt the most amazing part of my college experience has been working with the women of Sigma Kappa. Every member has inspired me to push myself farther and stay true to who I really am. Sigma Kappa is home to lifetime best friends and I will miss them terribly when I graduate this year, but I know we will be close for the rest of our lives."

—Martha Reggi



# sigma phi epsilon ΣΦΕ



**year founded:**  
1901 at Richmond College  
**u of i founding date:**  
1903  
**symbol:**  
Golden Heart  
**nickname:**  
SigEps  
**colors:**  
Red & Violet

SigEp Presents (fall philanthropy) is a talent show competition between sororities to raise money for Youth AIDS, SigEps' national charity. Jog for Josh (spring philanthropy) is a 5k run open to the public to raise money for the Joshua Gotteil Memorial Fund, which supports lymphoma cancer research.



**Top:** SigEps in New Orleans. Mike Labelle, Ryon Mareou, Don Stout, Jason Morquis, Kevin Concordio, Ragelia Cruz, Eric Holmer, Anthony Cante, Kevin Boyci, Matt Spaden.  
**Center:** Orange Krush SigEps. Andrew Poorman, Matthew Emig, Bob Cvengros, Bill Nesnidal.  
**Far left:** Fall Philanthropy Performers. Calin Clark, Justin Interina, Enrique Rables, Brad McClain, Dmitry Kagan, Jay Davé.  
**Left:** Jog for Josh Spring Philanthropy.

"Sigma Phi Epsilon challenges its members to become balanced men in an environment that fosters brotherly love and true friendship that will last a lifetime."

—Jeff Harden





## engineering council



**year founded:**

1921

**nickname:**

EC

**colors:**

Blue & Orange

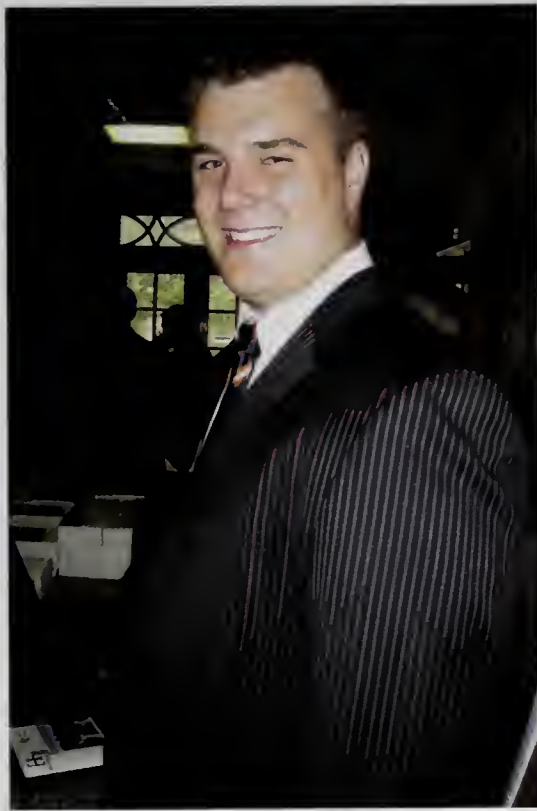
**activities:**

- Engineering Employment EXPO
- Engineering Open House

"Engineering Council has allowed me to supplement my academic education with personal development and leadership opportunities, while creating a sense of camaraderie amongst my fellow board members."

—Greg Schuh





SOX-O-GRAM												
U OF I ENGINEERING COUNCIL												
BALL 0										STRIKE 0		
										OUT 0		
CF	3B	2B	LF	1B	OH	RF	C	SS		R	H	E
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		7	9	0
2	0	2	0	3						2	3	1
										PITCHERS		
										34	HERNANDEZ	
										40	HAEGER	



**Opposite top:** The UIUC delegation to the National Association of Engineering Student Council's Regional Conference poses for a picture before the end of the conference banquet. This year's conference was held at Michigan State University.

**Opposite bottom:** Engineering Council Executive Board.

**Top left:** Sam Sodler gets ready to putt at the Engineering Council Charity Gold Tournament. The winning team was given \$300 to donate to a charity of their choice. This year's charity was the International Orthodox Christian Charities.

**Top right:** Pat Sykes, junior in Computer Science, takes a break from talking to potential employers of the Fall EXPO to smile for the cameras. This year's EXPO attracted over 400 corporate representatives to the three-day event.

**Left center:** Engineering Council took time out of their busy schedules to attend a Chicago White Sox baseball game.

**Right center:** The Chicago White Sox welcome Engineering Council on their scoreboard.

**Bottom:** Students and a faculty member work on a worksheet to try to earn points during the Engineering Olympics. The Dean's Student Advisory Committee hosted the Engineering Olympics in which teams competed against each other in various events that explored the realms of their engineering ability.



# illini pride

## STUDENT SPORTS FANS

The Orange Krush is not just the men's basketball student cheering section but also a unique charity organization. To join the Orange Krush, members do not buy their regular season basketball tickets, but instead, solicit pledges from the community and raise money for charity. Because of the dedication of our members, over the last 8 years the Orange Krush has raised and donated over \$1,285,000.

The Orange Krush this year started the "Krush Kids Program" where working with the local Carle Hospital, we bring two terminally ill children from the area to every home game to sit on the floor with us. These are children who will not experience life in the same way and we are ecstatic to give them this amazing opportunity.

The Orange Krush also had a Habitat for Humanity day in October 2006. About 15 members spent that day with the U of I's Habitat chapter and worked on the house that they are building.

**year founded:**

1977

**nickname:**

I-Pride

**colors:**

Orange & Blue



"My life at college has been separated into two parts: life without Illini Pride and life with Illini Pride. I have met so many new friends and had fun watching games of all 19 varsity sports. One of the best ideas of my college career was joining Orange Krush!"

—Vanessa Richmond







**Opposite top:** Defensive Back Kevin Mitchell shows his appreciation to the Block-I. *Photo courtesy of Lunoni Yen*

**Opposite bottom:** The Block-I sings "Alma Mater" while wearing their Illini Pride on their sleeves. *Photo courtesy of Lunoni Yen*

**Above:** The Orange Krush has made Assembly Hall one of the hardest places for opposing teams to play. Here they hit the floor during Point the Hall Orange. *Photo courtesy of Lunoni Yen*

**Left:** The Spike Squad shows their support for the Women's Volleyball team. *Photo courtesy of Brett Olson*

illini pride  
RETROFIT



# alpha delta pi AΔΠ



**year founded:**

1851 at Wesleyan  
Female College

**u of i founding  
date:**

March 28, 1912

**symbols:**

Violet & Lion

**nickname:**

A D Pi

**colors:**

Azure Blue & White

Every year Alpha Delta Pi hosts two philanthropy events, Kickin' It with A D Pi and Pancake Dinner. The proceeds of the events go to Ronald McDonald House, an organization that provides a home and necessities for families of sick children.



"There is something unexplainable that we all share as members of Alpha Delta Pi. Becoming a part of the Greek community is the beginning of a new experience with new friends and finding a home away from home. Through living with your sisters and sharing the same experiences you form a special closeness with those around you. Sisterhood means more than wearing Greek letters, attending meetings and going to social events together. It is a feeling and a sense of belonging. It is the feeling of being yourself and being respected for your individuality. It is the comfort in knowing you can count on your sisters in good times and bad."

—Allison Beringsmith





**Opposite top:** Allison Beringsmith, Jillion Schoefer, & Christino Seibert get ready for the final round of recruitment.

**Opposite bottom:** The ladies of Alpha Delta Pi, who were in the skit for recruitment, are excited about their performance.

**Top** Koro Krieg, Hannah Steinmon, Christina Gronnini, and Mollory Hofstad get ready for a round of recruitment.

**Left center:** Katie Keefe, Cristino Giannini, Koro Krieg & Hannah Steinmon are at the Holiday Party that Alpha Delta Pi hosts each year.

**Right center:** The Executive Board for 2007 poses for a group photo.

**Bottom** The seniors have had on amazing four years in Alpha Delta Pi. This was their last year for recruitment.





# delta delta delta    ΔΔΔ



**year founded:**

1888

**u of i founding date:**

1920

**symbols:**

Pearl, Pine & Pansy

**nickname:**

Tri Delta

**colors:**

Silver, Gold  
& Blue

Every fall, Tri Delta hosts "Greeks at Bat," a weekend long softball tournament that raises money for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, Tenn. Since 1974, Tri Deltas have raised more than \$10 million in support of children's cancer hospitals, research facilities, and cancer camps.

"Tri Delta has helped me grow as a person. I will miss not having a place to walk into with a plethora of smiling faces and welcoming open arms. I have found special friendships at Tri Delta and it will forever be my home."

—Dani Mrazek





**Opposite top:** Front Row: Lisa Przybysz, Becca Samuels, Brittany Brawn, Dani Mrazek, Jessica Schneider, Kim Crompton, Lindsey Falkanger, Lisa Nae. Second Row: Stacey Bluemer, Kristen Benne, Kristen Bauer, Tricia Meehan, Jenna Bell. Back Row: Katie Calles, Amy Murray, Mary Caurtright, Samantha Crames get ready for their last performance at first invite.

**Opposite bottom:** Front Row: Jen Salley, Raffaella Mucerina, Jenny Dewar, Alyssa Rapchak, Sydney Langford. Back Row: Andrea Dashi, Mally Sheehan, Kalee Ludeks, Melissa Lech, Amanda Tyrrell, Val Wersching, Ashley Nystrom, Michele Curley, Christie Demas, Sara Cline meet at the house before participating in Sigma Chi's annual philanthropy, Derby Days.

**Top:** Kelly Nugent, Andi Slavin, Kristin Saba, Kristina Filippella, Lindsey Kardik, and Brittany Bekas prepare to pick pumpkins at Curtis Orchard.

**Center:** Karly Chishalm, Ashley Richman, Julie Arabia, Vanessa Castellana and Lindsay Wodarski take a picture at barndance.

**Bottom:** Front: Lauren Knafelc, Bridget Ericksan, Jenna Verdicchia, Ashley Gilski, Kristen Bauer, Alyssa Rapchak, Middle: Emma Miller, Val Wersching, Stephanie Sauza, Axie Russell, Back: Katie Partyka, Kelly Krumtinger, Christine Valentina, Lauren Aquina, Cara, Sara Till, Julie Arabia, Brittany Openbrier, Megan Baldassarre after winning their intramural soccer game.





## delta zeta $\Delta Z$

**founded:**

October 24, 1902 at  
Miami University

**u of i founding date:**

October 21, 1921

**symbols:**

Roman Lamp, Killarney  
Rose & Diamond

**nickname:**

Dee Zee

**colors:**

Old Rose & Vieux Green

Our philanthropy event this year is different than in the past. It is a tug-of-war competition called Turtle Tug. After doing Krazee Bowl for many years the women of Delta Zeta decided to change it up this year. Our national philanthropy proceeds support speech and hearing and The Painted Turtle Camp.







**Opposite top:** Front Row: Katie Happ, Grace Ding, Gina Rizza, Allyn Krusemark, Cara Ash, Rachel Tenin, Andrea Lindemann, Stephanie Giaiasa. Second Row: Alisan Killey. Third Row: Ellen Berzack, Emily Huebener, Megan Bieda, Elizabeth Pastuovic, Carly Schneider, Katie Krahulec, Barbara Zebrowski, Melissa Wilkinsan, Lacey Walder, Gina Munoz, Jenna Flikas. Back: Cheryl Riardan, Carrie Kabrinetz, Megan Lau, Carale Heisel, Jackie Slabada, Jessica Anderson, Sameen Zia, Tamara Stephens, Nicole Barry, Traci Leslie, Olivia Rzepski.

**Opposite bottom:** Gina Muñoz, Lacey Walder, Stephanie Giaiasa.

**Top left:** Front Row: Maggie Straebel, Alex Nable. Second Row: Nadine Sheridan, Samantha Schreiner. Third Row Stephanie Lucak, Lindsay Wcisla, Natalie Zaval. Back Row: Jen Sabacki.

**Top right:** Front row: Nicole Nelsan, Cara Ash, Sarah Heuring, Sasha Young. Back row: Danielle Wyatt, Lisa Allgeyer, Candice Sloan, Jennifer Haffman.

**Center:** Mariya Stalyarava, Brittney Marales, Kristie Lauderman, Danielle Burian, Michelle Mika.

**Bottom:** Megan Bieda, Katie Krahulec, Carly Schneider, Elizabeth Pastavic, Barbara Zebrowski, Melissa Wilkinsan.



# alpha kappa alpha AKA



**year founded:**  
1908 at Howard University  
**u of i founding date:**  
February 12th, 1914  
**symbol:**  
Ivy leaf  
**nickname:**  
AKA  
**colors:**  
Salmon Pink & Apple  
Green

"... supreme service to all mankind."

We build a legacy today with community service activities and campus events. The oldest organization for black women at the University of Illinois, the Gamma chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha has been among the vanguard of academic excellence and campus activism for ninety-three years.



"Ninety-nine years ago, Alpha Kappa Alpha was founded to touch lives: a sisterhood created to improve the stature of women and serving mankind. The Glamorous Gamma Chapter creates and develops leaders and provides an arena of uplifting sisterhood. I love my Alpha Kappa Alpha."

—Jessica Ashley Davis



**Top, left center, right center bottom:** Members of Alpha Kappa Alpha: Michelle Hemphill, senior in LAS, Jessica Ashley Davis, senior in LAS, Melanie Berks, senior in LAS, Ashley Bands, senior in ACES, Laurie Brooks, senior in LAS, Kim Mathews, senior in LAS.



# alpha kappa lambda AKA



**year founded:**  
1914 at University of  
California-Berkeley  
**u of i founding date:**  
March 18, 1921  
**nickname:**  
AKL  
**colors:**  
Purple & Gold

This fall AKL co-hosted its first annual haunted house with the women of Sigma Kappa. During the spring semester AKL hosted its annual Arctic Blast, a tournament in which teams compete in winter games. Both events raised money for These Hands Don't Hurt, a charity founded by the national organization dedicated to educating the public about domestic violence and providing support for battered women.



"In AKL I've found numerous friendships, unforgettable stories, and positive character development that I'll carry with me throughout my life."  
—Stephen Harmon

**Top:** The Alpha Kappa Lambda house sits on the corner of Fourth and Daniel St.  
**Center:** Members of Alpha Kappa Lambda and Sigma Kappa relax together after working the haunted house. The event took in over a thousand dollars for charity during two days.  
**Bottom:** Senior Stephen Harmon and freshman Andy Shallcross hang out at the fall barndance.



# lambda chi alpha $\Lambda X A$



**year founded:**  
1909 at  
Boston University  
**u of i founding date:**  
1911  
**symbols:**  
Cross & Crescent

**nickname:**  
Choppers  
**colors:**  
Purple, Green  
& Gold

The North American Food Drive, Lambda Chi Alpha's national philanthropy event, has raised over 21.3 million pounds of food for the hungry since its inception in 1933. Aside from this, the U of I chapter generally hosts a party in the spring or fall in order to raise money for Josh's Fund, a local benefit for cancer research.



**Top:** Front Row: Tyler Wendt, Sam Altaner, Phil Johnson, Michael Stegeman, Joe Davern, Kevin Letourneau, Adam Zoellner, Brian Naiden, Brady Collins, Luke Fencil, Mark Cassidy. Second Row: Michael Walker, Chris Mallen, Adam Heinz, David Shea, Dan Waters, Jess Strilich, Jeff Vols, Bobby Golden, David Michael, Mike Maga, Abe Soang, Matt Managhan, Pat Cassidy, Brandon Mika, Jeff Tramp, Jason Agrimante. Third Row: Alex Whitaker, Dan Mazur, Sean Anderson, Phil Hyma, Nick Schwarz, Tristen Krahn, Connor Parker, Kyle Wallenberg, Ryan Beckmann, Dan Homan, Kevin Mares, Matt Raas, Lawrence Dart, Matt Dieska, Lucas Sternfield, Mike Schmitz, Charlie Navaria, Maren Batt, Rob Hyma, Dave Schubert, Octavia Duran, Josh Williams. Fourth Row: Billy Lewis, Dave Laude, Steven Rocus, Andrew Drake, Brandon Nalen, Edgar Mier, Robert Stewart, Charlie Gambino, Frank Vanderwall. Back Row: Kevin Pajman, Drew Mullan, Dan Fietterer, Mitch Burmeister, Scott Dwyer, Kevin McCarter, Eric Gatkowski, Philip Michael Banker, Victor Jukkas, Kevin Sitch, Paul Kaskavich, Jack Vuylsteke, Erik Sanders, Jerry Edwards, Frank Lani Raaf Mark Jirik, Don Lundstedt.

**Center:** The men of Lambda Chi Alpha after A O Pi's "Mud Olympics". The guys took third place in the event for charity. Pictured: Brady Collins, Dan Homan, Jack Vuylsteke, Eric Gatkowski, Lucas Sternfield, Brandon Nalen, and Kevin McCarter.

**Left:** The guys get together after their Associate Member football game having beaten Theta Xi 14 - 9. Pictured: Billy Lewis, Tyler Wendt, Kyle Wallenberg, Mike Stegeman.

"There is nothing that I have done in my four years of college that has more prepared me to be a leader than the hands on experience of leading 90 of my closest peers; it has to this point been the most difficult and rewarding experience of my life"

—Frank Vanderwall



# gamma phi beta ΓΦΒ



**year founded:**  
1874 at Syracuse  
University  
**u of i founding date:**  
May 24, 1913  
**nickname:**  
Gamma Phi, G Phi's  
**colors:**  
Brown & Mode

The organization that Gamma Phi Beta's philanthropy activities benefit is Camp Fire USA. This organization helps send underprivileged children to camp, and give them opportunities they would otherwise not be able to afford. Our chapter hosts a Taco Dinner in the Spring and a Golf Tournament in the Fall with all profits going toward Camp Fire USA.



**Top:** Gamma Phis from the 2007 pledge class stop for a photo while on a fall sisterhood event to Curtis Orchard.  
**Center:** A group of girls from the 2008 pledge class pose during fall recruitment.  
**Left:** Gamma Phis welcoming their new 2010 pledge class on bid day.



# stratford house



**year founded:**

1949

**nickname:**

Strat

**colors:**

Wine & White

Each semester we choose an organization to which we donate our missions budget. This year we were able to give to Illinois Lodge which provides for children and adults with disabilities to go to a summer camp. We were also able to support the Jesus Film Project, an organization that brings the film all over the world in many different languages.



**Top right:** Broomball Intramurals! We teamed up with Koinonia House to hit the ice. Aurora Caplinger, Shelly Unander, Liz Ritzke.

**Left center:** We had our annual barn dance at Hardy's Reindeer Ranch this fall—complete with a corn maze, pumpkin carving, and of course, dancing! Chelsea Nelson, Ann Coultas.

**Right center:** Registering for I Help! We joined up with some of the guys from Koin and went to the Eastern Illinois Food Bank to help unload and organize boxes of donated items. Front Row: Alexis Walz, Rachel Messier. Back Row: Brad Borland, Pierce Vanne, Priscilla Reisinger, Jessica Gibson, Peter Lichtenberger, Nathan Krehbiel.

**Bottom:** House Picture. Front Row: Alyssa Combs, Tara Miller, Kelsey Vondike, Jessica Gibson, Liz LaVine. Not Pictured: Jessica Blair. Second Row: Dorla Wilson, Anna Ziegler, Aurora Caplinger, Tricia Leman, Emily Foltzler, Alyse Curry, Natalie Coers, Beth Unander, Nichole Franks, Stephanie Veazie, Kiira VanDerNoordaa, Bonnie Stevig, Kacie Liederbach, Melissa Feigl, Elizabeth Ritzke, Sarah Pauley, Jackie Guth. Back Row: Emily Gradle, Emily Rogers, Ji Hye Kim, Rachel Messier, Shelly Unander, Andi Sandel, Alexis Walz, Priscilla Reisinger, Amy Unander, Erin Stevig, Kati Hassler, Ann Coultas, Anne McLain, Chelsea Nelson, Sarah Safavinejah.

"I gave everything I have to the poor and even sacrificed my body. I could boast about it; but if I didn't love others I would have gained nothing' (1 Corinthians 13:3). As a community of Christians from many different backgrounds, we are united in the desire to pass on Christ's love to this campus, and throughout the world!"



# sigma chi ΣΧ



**year founded:**

1855 at Miami Ohio University

**u of i founding date:**

1881

**symbols:**

The White Cross

**nickname:**

Sigs

**colors:**

Blue & Old Gold

Every year we hold a week-long philanthropy event called Derby Days. More than 10 sororities compete and participate in a variety of events to help raise money for the Children's Miracle Network. This year we raised more than \$15,000.



"Sigma Chi embodies a true college experience. It provides a social, academic, philanthropic, and leadership opportunity that cannot be surpassed."

**Top:** Adam Shalapin, Drew Michalak, Ryan McCoy and Mark Rollings at our Riverboat Exchange with the Gamma Phis.

**Left center:** Wayne Vanderheide and Chris Harris at our Mom's Weekend Auction.

**Right center:** Matt Christensen, Kevin McAndrew and Tany Piscapa at Brotherhood Night.

**Bottom:** Seniors Carmen Rossi, Cam Gundersen, Mike Gale and Chad Zeglis





# illini emergency medical services



u of i founding date:

1979

nickname:

IEMS

symbols:

Star of Life

colors:

Red, White, Blue &

Orange

"Illini EMS has allowed me the opportunity to gain valuable medical experience while facilitating some of the best friendships with people who share my interests in helping others and our community."

—Christine Schroeder



Illini Emergency Medical Services is a BLS, non-transport service for the University of Illinois campus. IEMS was founded in 1979 by student EMTs who decided that the two first-aid rooms in Memorial Stadium were not adequate medical coverage for a typical stadium event. Our primary responsibility is to provide EMS support to events on campus. IEMS also offers educational classes such as CPR, First Responder, and EMT-Basic to students and the community.



**Top:** Nancy Hsu, Jenny Band, & Jash Zimmerman catching a breath after saving lives at an Illini football game.

**Above left:** Nancy Hsu, Erin Scheidemantel, Christine Schroeder, & Danielle Werner at the IEMS Formal.

**Front row:** Jash Zimmerman, Jahn Saunders, Erin Scheidemantel, Liz Furgat, Nancy Hsu, Emily Dray, Samuel Kim, Kurt Blaamstrand. **Back row:** Luke Pro, Rob Davis, Dustin Rumpel, Mengyao Liang, Christine Schroeder, Dean Adams, Layne Phillips, Jenny Band. **Not pictured:** Dan Maluta, Taby Gabrielsen.

**Left:** Practice makes perfect! EMT students Sammy Harris, Taby Gabrielsen, and Tegan Pague practice spineboarding during a fake scene.



# illini dance team



"This team signifies a hard working group of girls that are dedicated to bringing spirit to the U of I campus, to representing U of I on a national level at the college dance team championships, and to having a great time performing as a team."

The nationally-ranked Illini Dance Team is a group of ambitious female athletes dedicated to continuing the long-standing tradition of competitive excellence on which it was founded. As a student-run, self-funded sports club on campus, the Illini Dance Team's primary focus is competing at the national level at the UDA College Dance Team National Championships in Orlando, Florida. They also perform at many campus events and holds clinics for university and high school students. We have participated in events such as Boogie Nights and Up Til' Dawn. We also performed at the first annual Dance.Live.06 showcase at University of Illinois-Chicago. The proceeds from this event went to the Muscular Dystrophy Association.

**nickname:**  
Blue & Orange

**Above:** The team attends UDA summer college dance camp every year alongside many of other dance teams in the Big Ten. They gather over the summer to prepare for camp and become a cohesive team. **Left:** The team is preparing to perform their hip hop routine at the National Championships. Without a coach, the officers are responsible for all aspects of this team's success. A lot of hard work went into being able to attend this competition and accomplish their goals.



# university baptist church

**year founded:**

1912

**theme:**

Go and Tell! Rev.14:6

**nickname:**

UBC

"Being part of UBC has been a tremendous blessing for me.

The things I have learned and applied to my life as well as the relationships formed will always be part of me. College most definitely would not have been the same without UBC."

—Akihiko Tomita



The University Baptist Church is proud to support a plethora of activities and groups specifically designed to meet the needs and interest of students. From couples and small groups to undergraduate Bible study we have it all. Students also have great opportunities here to reach out and make a difference. Missions trips to Habitat for Humanity work sites are taken every year during spring break and we also support our local missions work such as Restoration Urbana Ministries and Operation Sleighbell.

"The Baptist Student Foundation and UBC focus on providing the means for fellowship and worship to the community and encourage education, faith, and growth in the Bible and Jesus Christ."

—Dan Riewerts



**Top:** The University Baptist Church meets after worship.  
**Above:** Serving others.  
**Left:** Studying God's Word.



# student alumni ambassadors



"Student Alumni Ambassadors has been the best part of my college experience. Nowhere else would I have found the opportunities, leadership or the friendships. I had the privilege of serving the campus in choosing 100 loyal seniors who have given so much to this university and honoring them for the excellence they have embodied. I have made lifelong friendships with people who have incredible dedication, warmth, and pride for this school. I don't know if I'll ever find a home like this again and I will miss everyone, as well as this organization so much - it truly does "Build Relationships For Life!"

—Michelle Lira

**Above:** Member of the Student Alumni Ambassadors meet for a photo.

**year founded:**

1976

**nickname:**

SAA

SAA hosts nearly 200 University and Alumni Association events each year. In addition SAA plans and runs many Homecoming events such as the Pep Rally and I-Help, along with events for students like Illinois Sights and Sounds and Gradfest.



# alpha chi rho AXR



"My brothers are my family at school. My brothers will be with me throughout life. I don't know what my life would be like without them, but I don't really care to think about it."

—Joel Bonasera

**year founded:**  
1895  
**u o f i founding date:**  
May 29, 1916  
**symbols:**  
AXP  
**nickname:**  
Crows  
**colors:**  
Garnet & White

Brothers of the house assisted in the building of a playground for the children of Thomas Paine Elementary School in Urbana.

**Left:** Front Row: Brion Schmidt, Tom Follbocher, Sochit Roo, Brion de Koning, Ryan Pinto, Tim Smith. Middle Row: Michael Kotrbo, Phil Rehoni, Seon Rohon, Patrick Tomborski, Mott Sykes, William Kormos, Andy Keeney, Arjun Boin-dur, Tim Noffke, Mott Duch. Top Row: Joel Bonasera, Joey Urban, Eric Johnson, Jason Luksis, Toni Moll, Roger Serwy, Keyon McCof-frey. Not Pictured: Poul Ahn, Chris Bergsvik, Keith Chernick, Mott Militello, Patrick Ronto

# pi beta phi



Pi Beta Phi works to promote literacy. Each year the house makes other greek organizations participate in an athletic tournament called Arrow games. Proceeds from the event go towards Pi Phi's national philanthropy, Links to Literacy. Pi Phi is also active in the Champaign-Urbana community. The chapter created a literacy program at a local elementary school called Champions are Readers. Through this program Pi Phi's work with second and third graders on their reading skills. Pi Phi's also participate in a variety of other philanthropic organizations like Up till Dawn, Habitat for Humanity, and Big Brothers, Big Sisters.



"Being a Pi Phi has allowed me to meet some of my closest friends. It's also given me many opportunities both in the Greek system and in other organizations. It has defined my college experience, and I have no idea where I'd be without these girls!"

—Nicole Alexander

**year founded:**  
1867 at Monmouth College, IL  
**u o f i founding date:**  
October 26, 1895  
**symbols:**  
The Arrow  
**nickname:**  
Pi Phi  
**colors:**  
Wine & Silver Blue

**Top:** Front Row: Susan Bickner, Leslie Powell, Katy Wettstein, Kim Vlodek. Back Row: Eliso Correo, Meg Gorhom, Trocey Driscoll, Jomie Miller.  
**Left:** Sovono Soder, Katy Steeze, Soro Smudo, Jessico Wic, Melisso Dudek



# phi mu



**year founded:**  
1852 in Macon, GA  
**u of i founding date:**  
1921  
**symbols:**  
Carnation, Quatra  
Foil & Lion  
**nickname:**  
Phi Mu's  
**colors:**  
Rose & White

Phi Mu holds their annual Broomball tournament during the spring semester and a spaghetti dinner during the fall. All the proceeds go to Phi Mu's national philanthropy, Children's Miracle Network.

**Left:** The women of Phi Mu welcome their new pledge class on Bid Day.

"Phi Mu has given me countless friends, sisters and opportunities within the organization but also campuswide. My sorority represents not only who I was in college; this group of women allowed me the chance to grow and change into the person I am today."

—Samantha Conover

# triangle fraternity



**year founded:**  
1907  
**colors:**  
Old Rose & Grey

## house officers

**President:**  
Bob Bierman  
**Internal V.P.:**  
Jeff Dommeyer  
**External V.P.:**  
David Muccigrosso  
**Recruitment V.P.:**  
Mott Collison  
**Treasurer:**  
Eric Lindberg  
**Secretary:**  
Michael Rizzitello  
**House Manager:**  
Ion Brown  
**Commissar:**  
Marshall Kotz  
**Recruitment Chairmen:**  
Ed Roy  
Jeff Mundinger  
Kyle Millins  
**Social Chairman:**  
Andrew Mortenson  
**Alumni Relations:**  
Vlod Tiro  
**Summer Recruitment:**  
Rojinder Sodhi  
**Webmaster:**  
Kevin Glowacz



# illini 'n motion



year founded:  
1995



**Above:** Executive Board: Kristen Sackley, Vice President, Kristen Zelasko, President, Natalie Hicks, Treasurer.  
**Left:** Front row: Kristen Sackley, Kaitlyn Dalton, Natalie Hicks, Stephanie Florence, Kristi Rhodes, Kristen Zelasko. Second row: Katy Galli, Colby Prunty, Briana Horn, Lean Furmanski, Sandy Splayt, Bridget Holey, Tiffany Hall. Third row: Liz Pham, Lauren Olson, Karen Tsui, Lindsey Vrtis, Erin Mangian, Beth Ferguson, Samantha Phelps, Erin Fullerton. Fourth row: Missy Warner, Molly Gipson, Jesse Kappel, Savano Soder, Jamie Miller, Kim Proudfoot, Kimberly Redeker, Tessa Myers.

"Illini 'N Motion has been an important aspect of my college career as it has allowed me to stay active as a dancer, as well as provided me with a creative outlet. Being a part of Illini 'N Motion for the past four years has provided me with a small community of dancers to not only share my talents and ideas with, but to grow with in ability and friendship."

—Kristen Zelasko, President

# illini union board



year founded:  
1942

**Front Row:** Jeanne Poole, Stephanie James, Paula Urtubey-Fish, Christina Alabi, Vivian Yulun Ko, Fatima Aziz, Brian Griffith. **Back Row:** Derek Chan, Daniel Newman, Ryan Johnson, Lance Wright, Mulu Ferede, Zachary Knight, Nalin Saluja, Michael Buehlman, Carla Cofre, Abigail Fleming, Shoaq Ansari, Jacqueline Ware-Sodsod



# phi mu alpha sinfonia



## year founded:

1898 at the New England Conservatory of Music

## u of i founding date:

June 6, 1925

## symbols:

Lyre

## colors:

Red & Black

**Front row:** Matthew Bufis, Ankur Raniwala, Mike Gardner, Ben Halmes, Jeff Novak, Steven Riley, Mike West, Justin Ahlberg-  
**Back row:** Cady Halberstadt, Brandon Catt, Bob Mecazzi, Adam Rusek, Jonathan Krauss, Brendan Frank, Zachary Gellar, Nicholas Loafman

"Sinfonia has been a brotherhood which helps me through the hard times and created the good. The bonds I have created in my years in the fraternity are lifelong and I will cherish each and every memory."

—Adam Rusek, President

# phi eta sigma $\Phi E \Sigma$



## year founded:

1923

## symbols:

Lamp & Pyramid

## colors:

Black & Gold

Phi Eta Sigma was founded at the University of Illinois on March 12, 1923. It is the oldest and largest freshman honor society on campus. Our goal is to encourage and reward excellence among first-year students in institutes of higher learning. Phi Eta Sigma participates in tutoring at Garden Hills Elementary School, Relay for Life, School supply drive, and many more!

**president:** Victor Chan

**vice-president:** Jenna Wilkerson

**director of internal affairs:** Chris Molitor

**secretary:** Melissa Beck

**historian:** Kristen Oliszewicz

**on-campus tutoring:** Emily Selen

**off-campus tutoring:** James Henderson

**senior advisor:** Justin Litz

**faculty advisor:** Meghan Hazen

**Bottom:** Phi Eta Sigma Members have fun at Relay for Life.  
**Left:** The Phi Eta Sigma 2006-2007 Executive Board meets after the Fall General Meeting.





## 3spot dance troupe



**year founded:**  
1997

Before our Fall 2006 show at Lincoln Hall Theater. 3Spot Dance Troupe Members: Amanda Bohnenstiehl, Megan Bentz, Lauren Brescia, Nicole Cajindos, Chloe Castro, Sarah Chapman, Kayla Christensen, Lena Ciardullo, Kristyn Colacicco, Melissa Colgan, Annie Colletti, Diana Corral, Lauren Coutant, Megan Dino, Julia Dostal, Amanda Freebeck, Lisa Geiger, Sara Gramley, Kristen Hammons, Meredith Harris, Meredith Havey, Amber Jackson, Maggie Jarr, Alison Killey, Chris Knowlton, Kimberly Kopka, Nya Lynn, Megan Mattucci, Lisa Mellman, Sarah Murphy, Lauren Popp, Stephanie Poquette, Brooke Projansky, Abby Ptak, Kendall Romai, Ashley Rockafellow, Alexandra Rzepka, Kristen Schramm, Lauren Schroeder, Angela Simpson, Rachel Specht, Elizabeth Steller, Maggie Straebel, Diana Xu, Danielle Vicek.

"3Spot has given me the opportunity to stay active with dance, be involved at U of I, and be part of a creative group full of great dancers."

—Elizabeth Steller

## habitat for humanity



**year founded:**  
1976 in Americus, Georgia

Habitat for Humanity build houses for the less privileged people in this community and across the United States.

**Front row:** Sandra Lu, Katy Galli, Stu Montgomery, Shari Greiger, An Nguyen. **Back row:** Marli Bardell, Jeff Green, Paul Hopkins, Eric Sheu, Charles Blatti.

## campus girl scouts



**colors:**  
Blue & Green  
**symbols:**  
Trefoil

**Front row:** Sara Schepis, Jessie Kubiszyn, Fatima Chishti, Virginia Byrne, Ashley Garner. **Back row:** Council Advisor, Deborah Faircloth, Ashlee Ford, Molly Goodman, Claire Krauss, Bernadette Skobel, Caitlin Sullivan, Ashley Warmoth, Kelly Hayes, Victoria Svazas, Kyla Waltermire.

## women's glee club

**year founded:**  
1924

**Officers (front row):** Beth Golden, Treasurer; Sarah Jankiewicz, Concert Choir; Katie Colby, Secretary; Chelsey Phelps, President; Aarti Jayanth, Librarian; Georgam Grecco, Vice President; Dr. Joe Grant, Director.

"During my time at U of I, Women's Glee has given me the chance to share my passion of singing and music with others. It has given me many friends and memories that I will carry for a lifetime."

This year Women's Glee Club was invited to perform at the Illinois Music Educator's Association All-State in Peoria this January.





# nabor house fraternity



**Front row:** Brandon Bazarth, Jashuo Dougherty, Robert Foerder, Michael Benjamin, Nicholas Shaner, Lucas Martin, Robert Jahnsan, Curtis Zurliene, Jashua Hornbock, Wes Harnback. **Second row:** Jay Kelley, Brodley Nelson, Grant Honnoh, Marcus Shaw, Michael Gonschaw, Scott Wessel, Eric Dewerff, Jared Walter, Larry Caers, Nick Yorber, Randy Lindgren, Andrew Morehouse. **Back row:** John Dallas, Joe Talley, John Carsan, Tyler Helgen, Ben Wendling, Dustin Daugherty, Brian Craine, Andrew Fulton, Lee Brakaw, David Shier. **Not Pictured:** Glendon Honey, Bryce Haselhorst, Michael Perkins, Carey Struck, Joe Zimmerman.

**u of i founding date:**  
April 29, 1939  
**symbols:**  
The Crest  
**colors:**  
Green & Gold

"Nabor House provided me with a wholesome living environment rich with the ideals of education, cooperation, recreation, Christian living, and agriculture appreciation. The men of Nabor House stand solid to their core values, making our fraternity an exciting and fruitful place to live!"

—John Dougherty, Senior

# LAS leaders



**Front row:** Kim Matthews, Koitlin Molloy, Abby Dall, Mallary Herr, Stephanie Luke.  
**Second row:** Valerie Fako, Eryn Finke, Emma Jay, Marie Verhelst, Erinn Mitchell.  
**Third row:** Amanda Tiller, Emmo Swift, NaaAmerly Badger, Lourie Konio, Gail Schnitzer, Ashley Moore, Ashley Wells, Allison Costillo, Ignacia Mendaza.  
**Back row:** Kara Ramsey, Michael Lorkin, Bruce Douglas, Steve Serio, Dan Mazur, David Wiest, Ryon Lawe, Chris Karacie, Joey Levin, Ben Dabbins, Akindele Fomayegun.  
**Not pictured:** Korli Ahn, Victor Chan, Natlie Czupryna.

"LAS Leaders has provided me with the opportunity to embrace my course while allowing me to interact with past and present students of the council. The group has also offered me many career-related opportunities."

—David Wiest, President

# ucc campus ministry



**year founded:**  
1921 at UIUC  
**nickname:**  
UCF  
**year founded:**  
1921 at UIUC

**Front row:** Adam Hughes, Kim Vagler, Jesse Kappel, Nigel Knopp, Scott Banjavcic, Megan Whitney, Ben Shea, Heather Gaetsch, Mork Goodwin.  
**Second row:** Cary Hinz, Nichal Chantofolsky, Amy Balek, Allison Hall, Jen Goheen, Caroline Nalezny, Cosey Haercher, Mike Allen, Suson Requa.

UCF worked throughout the year with organizations such as the Times Center, and the Boys & Girls club giving of our time. They give our money to a lot of farther causes as well such as Katrina relief & relief to Africa. Their biggest philanthropy project is a spring break trip where they work in high poverty areas to build or renovate houses.

"This group has been a sanctuary for me. It is a place I can be crazy, a place I can be calm, a place where I can learn & a place I can grow. I've met a second family through this group. the people in this group are the ones I can go to no matter the time, place, or situation."

—Susan Requa



RETRO  
LENTAL ● ● ● ●

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Looking back at a class of Illinois seniors, as if situated behind a lens.



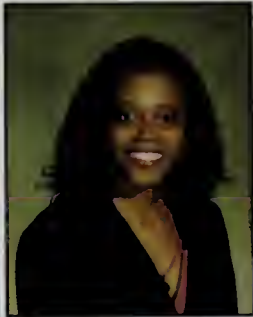
CAROLYN ABINGTON  
Media Studies, Dix Hills, NY  
JILLIAN ADAIR  
Consumer and Textile Marketing, Champaign, IL  
IAN ADAMS  
Political Science and Economics, Geneva, IL  
LISA ADAMS  
Speech Communication, Urbana, IL  
MARK EVAN ADAMS  
Electrical Engineering, Marysville, WA  
ERIC ADONA  
Economics and Finance, Franklin Park, IL



JESSICA AGUILAR  
Political Science, Chicago, IL  
LORENA AGUILERA  
Psychology, Elgin, IL  
CARMINA AGUIRRE  
Elementary Education, Chicago, IL  
JAEHAN AHN  
Accounting, Savoy, IL  
CHRISTINA ALABI  
Broadcast Journalism Pre-Law, Bolingbrook, IL  
ANGELICA ALFARO  
Psychology, Chicago, IL



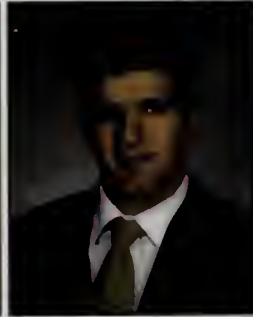
BRADLEY ALLEN  
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JOSHUA ALLEN  
Accounting, Delavan, IL  
NIKOLAS ALLEN  
Engineering Physics, Chicago Ridge, IL  
EMMANUEL ALOZIE  
Molecular and Cellular Biology, Monee, IL  
ALICIA ALTHEIMER  
Chemistry, Chicago, IL  
ROSANNA AMIRAN  
Music Education, Des Plaines, IL



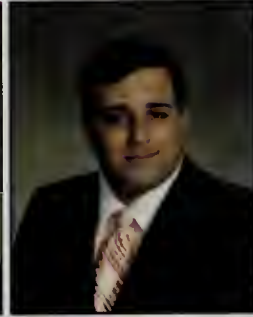
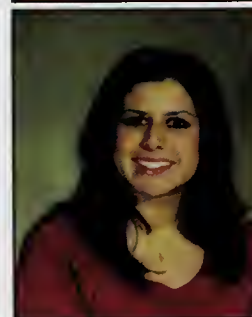
HANNA AMOAH  
Community Health, Chicago, IL  
ELIZABETH ANDERSON  
Elementary Education, Arlington Heights, IL  
ERIC H. ANDERSON  
Mechanical Engineering, Fishkill, NY  
ERIC T. ANDERSON  
Broadcast Journalism, Western Springs, IL  
JULIE ANDERSON  
Speech and Hearing, Chicago, IL  
KRISTEN ANDERSON  
Technical Systems Management, Richmond, IL



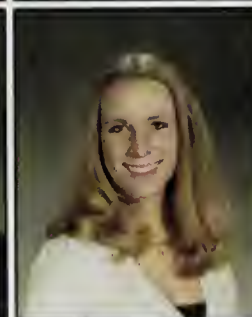
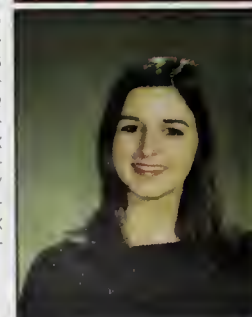
MARITA ANDERSON  
Community Health, Champaign, IL  
SHANNON ANDERSON  
Architectural Studies, Green Valley, IL  
JESSE ANDREWS III  
Finance, Chicago, IL  
RAYNOLD ANSONG  
Psychology, Chicago, IL  
BRIAN APPELL  
Industrial Design, Wilmette, IL  
BRIAN ARCHIBALD  
Accountancy, St. Albans, MO



AURORA ARIAS  
Community Health, Arlington Heights, IL  
CARTIER ARMSTRONG  
Community Health, Savoy, IL  
MARISA ARMSTRONG  
Marketing, Peoria, IL  
WILLIAM ARNOST  
Finance, North Andover, MA  
ELLIOT ARSONIADIS  
Molecular and Cellular Biology, Elgin, IL  
BENJAMIN ASHRAF  
Integrative Bio. and Classic Civ., Morgantown, WV



THERESA AUDINO  
Kinesiology, Mount Prospect, IL  
SARAH AYERS  
Media Studies, Monmouth, IL  
THOMAS BADGER  
Business Administration, Sycamore, IL  
CHRISTOPHER BAEK  
Computer Engineering, Northbrook, IL  
PORTIR BAILEY  
Agriculture Finance, Chicago, IL  
JILL BAJOREK  
Psychology, Burbank, IL







EMILY BAKKEN  
AGRICULTURAL LEADERSHIP, LINCOLN, IL  
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PSYCHOLOGY, MAPLE PARK, IL  
JILLIAN BALK  
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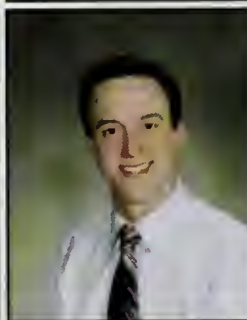
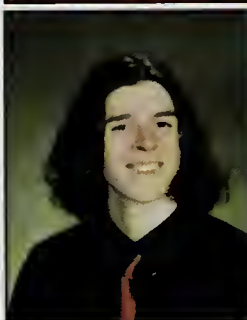
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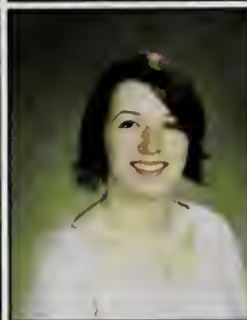
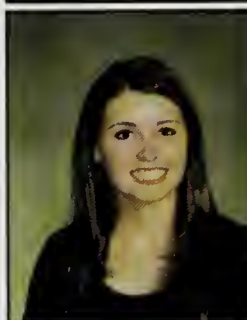
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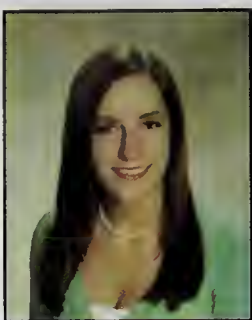
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NUCLEAR PLASMA AND RADIOLOGICAL ENGINEERING, CHAMPAIGN, IL  
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KIRK BULTA  
AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION, LE ROY, IL

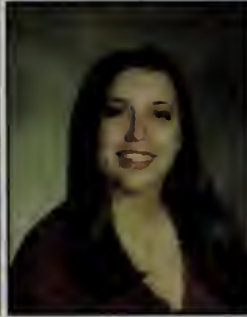
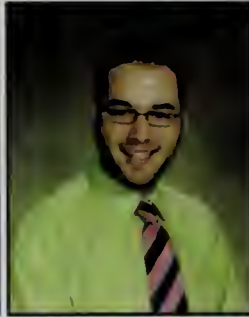
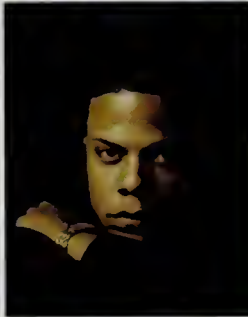
MINDY BUKER  
RECREATION SPORT AND TOURISM, BELLEVILLE, IL  
ALLISON BUNS  
HUMAN DEV. AND FAM. STUDIES, LIBERTYVILLE, IL  
DANIEL BUNZOL  
MOLECULAR AND CELLULAR BIOLOGY, LINCOLNWOOD, IL  
DARRON BURKE  
POLITICAL SCIENCE, MCHEENY, IL  
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PSYCHOLOGY, PARK ROSE, IL  
JULIA BURNS  
PSYCHOLOGY, URBANA, IL



HEATHER BURR  
SPEECH AND HEARING SCIENCE, BUREAU, IL  
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MOLECULAR AND CELLULAR BIOLOGY, NAPERVILLE, IL  
EFREN CABALLES  
MOLECULAR AND CELLULAR BIOLOGY, BOLINGBROOK, IL  
THOMAS CAFAS  
URBAN PLANNING, BARRINGTON, IL  
LAUREN CAINE  
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JUSTIN CAJINDOS  
HISTORY AND POLITICAL SCIENCE, HICKORY HILLS, IL



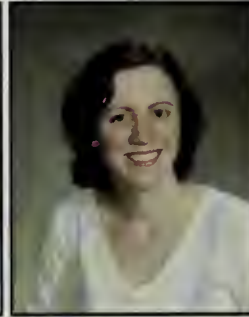
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LAWRENCE JEROME CAMPBELL II  
SOCIOLOGY, UNIVERSITY PARK, IL  
EDWARD CAMPIONE  
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JANNA CANNING  
MATHEMATICS, PALOS HEIGHTS, IL



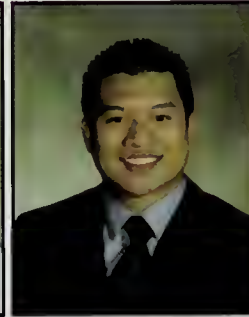
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THOMAS CARLSON  
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VICTOR CARREON  
COMPUTER SCIENCE, BURR RIDGE, IL



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BRENDAN CARTER  
FINANCE, EVERGREEN PARK, IL  
JENNIFER CARTER  
ENGLISH, CARROLLTON, IL  
SCOTT CASE  
ECONOMICS, BLOOMINGTON, IL  
MEGAN CASEY  
BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION, OAK LAWN, IL  
MONICA CASTILLO  
ACTUARIAL SCIENCE, SHOKIE, IL



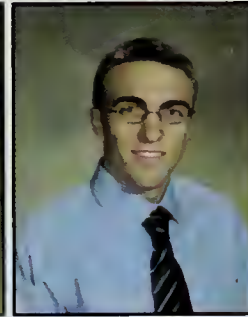
DANIEL CAUGHEY  
HISTORY, PEORIA, IL  
KRISTINE CAVALIGOS  
HOSPITALITY MANAGEMENT, LONG GROVE, IL  
AIDA MAE CAYETUNA  
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ARIADNA CESPEDES  
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CHRISTINE CHIN  
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DEVIN CHO  
AEROSPACE ENGINEERING, HANOVER PARK, IL  
EUNSIL CHOI  
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BENJAMIN CHOSTNER  
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EVA CHOW  
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ERIC CHRISTENSEN  
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HILLARY CLARK  
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AARON CLAVER  
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PATRICK CLEARY  
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BENJAMIN COBER  
RECREATION SPORT AND TOURISM, CINCINNATI, OH

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KIMBERLY COEN  
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JEROME COENIC  
SOCIOLOGY, CHICAGO, IL  
LARRY COERS  
CHEMISTRY, CHESTNUT, IL  
ADAM COLBA  
ACCOUNTANCY, CHAMPAIGN, IL  
ERIC COLEMAN  
SPEECH COMMUNICATION, JOLIET, IL

LATASHA COLEMAN  
COMMUNITY HEALTH, CHICAGO, IL  
COLLEEN COLLINS  
ELEMENTARY EDUCATION, GLENVIEW, IL  
RYAN MICHAEL COLLINS  
NUCLEAR, PLASMA AND RADIOLOGICAL ENGINEERING, ELGIN, IL  
STEFANIE COLLIS  
COMMUNITY HEALTH, NAPERVILLE, IL  
ALYSSA COMBS  
ACCOUNTANCY, CHAMPAIGN, IL  
CHRISTINA CONCEPCION  
PSYCHOLOGY, BARTLETT, IL

BRITTANY CONKLIN  
SPEECH COMMUNICATION, URBANA, IL  
ALEXSHEA CONN  
RECREATION SPORT AND TOURISM, AURORA, IL  
ELISABETH CONNER  
DANCE, COLLINSVILLE, IL  
SAMANTHA CONOVER  
HISTORY, LAKE IN THE HILLS, IL  
JOSHUA CONROY  
INTEGRATIVE BIOLOGY, FREEPORT, IL  
PAMELA COOK  
ACCOUNTANCY, MINDALE, IL

SABRINA COOPER  
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ELISA CORREA  
FINANCE, HOMERWOOD, IL  
COLLEEN CORRIGAN  
ELEMENTARY EDUCATION, SKOKIE, IL  
SAMUEL COSTANZO  
ENGINEERING MECHANICS, MANASSAS, VA  
JENNIFER COSTELLO  
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LAURA COTE  
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LAUREN COUTANT  
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KATHRYN COVGANKA  
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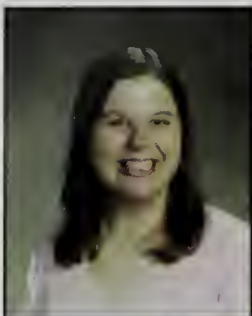
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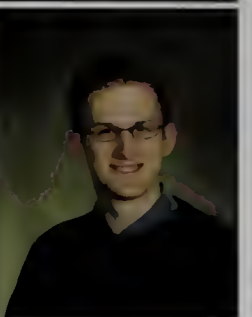
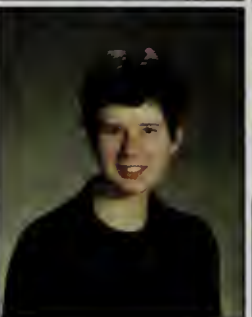
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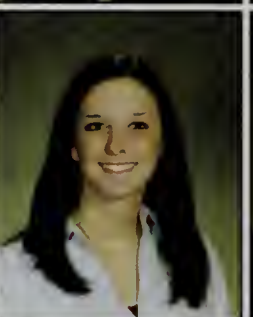
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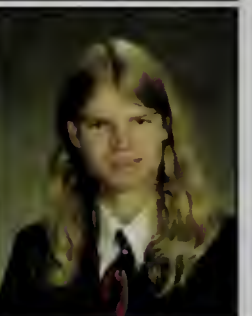
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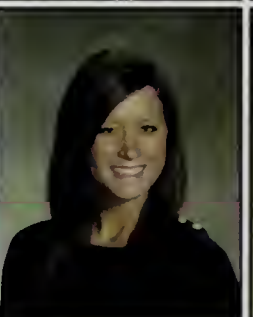
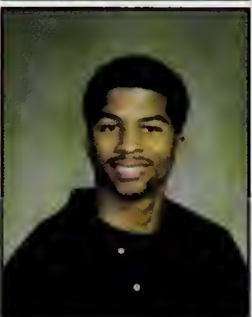
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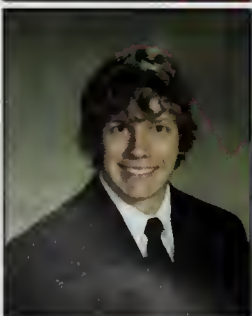
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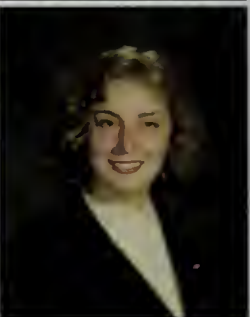
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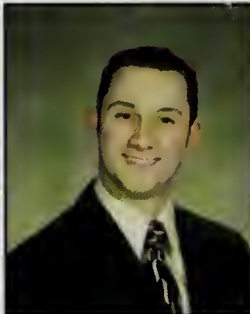
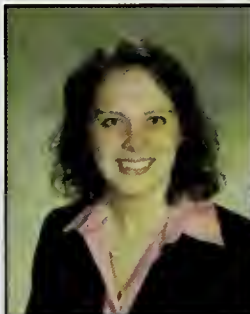
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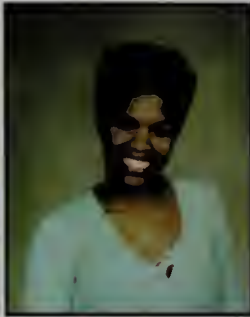
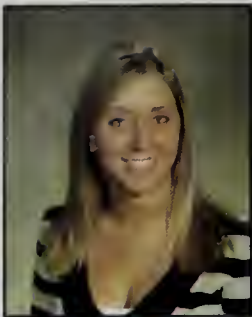
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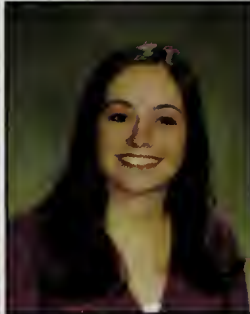
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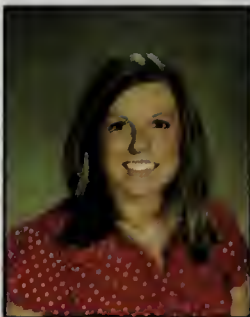
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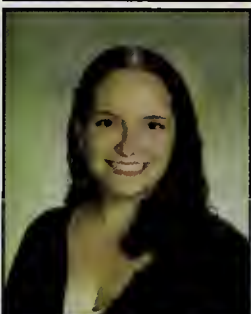
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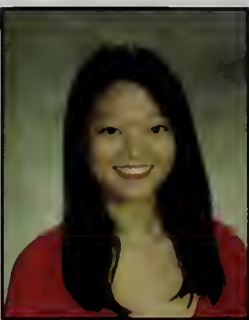
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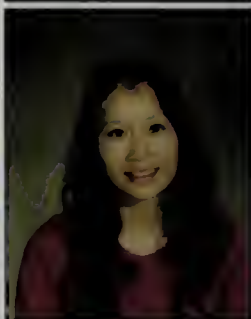
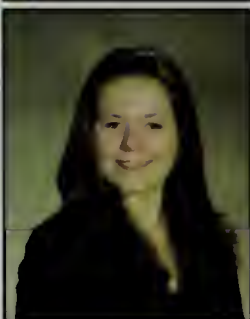
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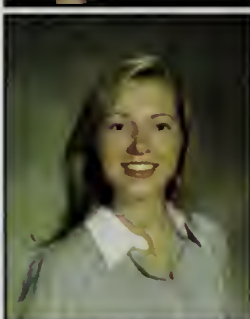
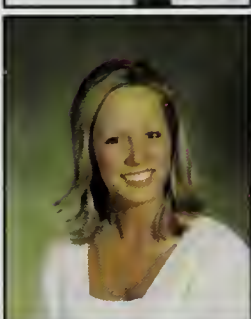
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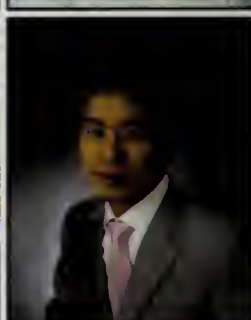
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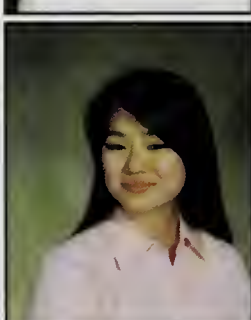
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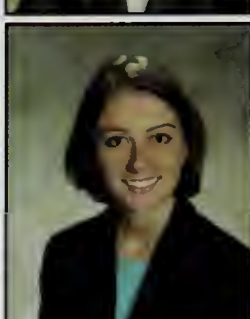
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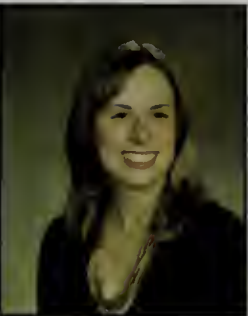
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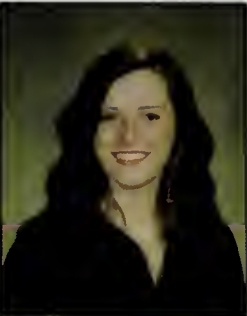
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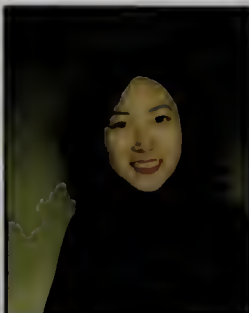
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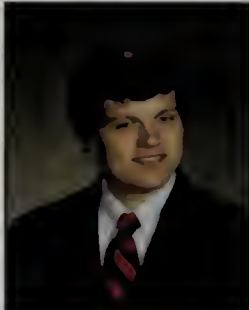
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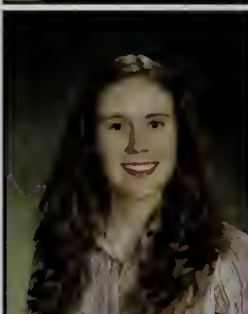
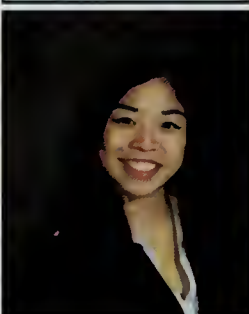
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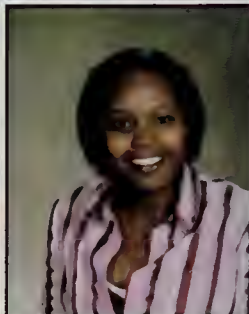
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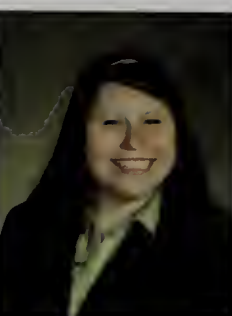
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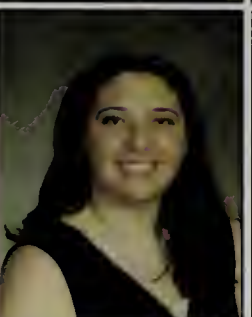
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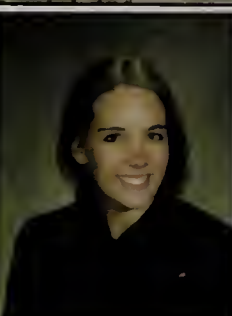
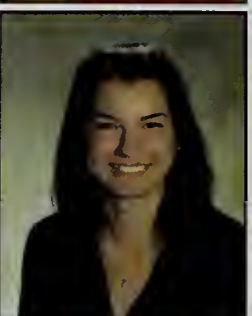
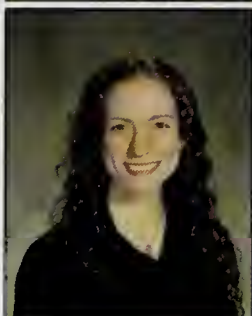
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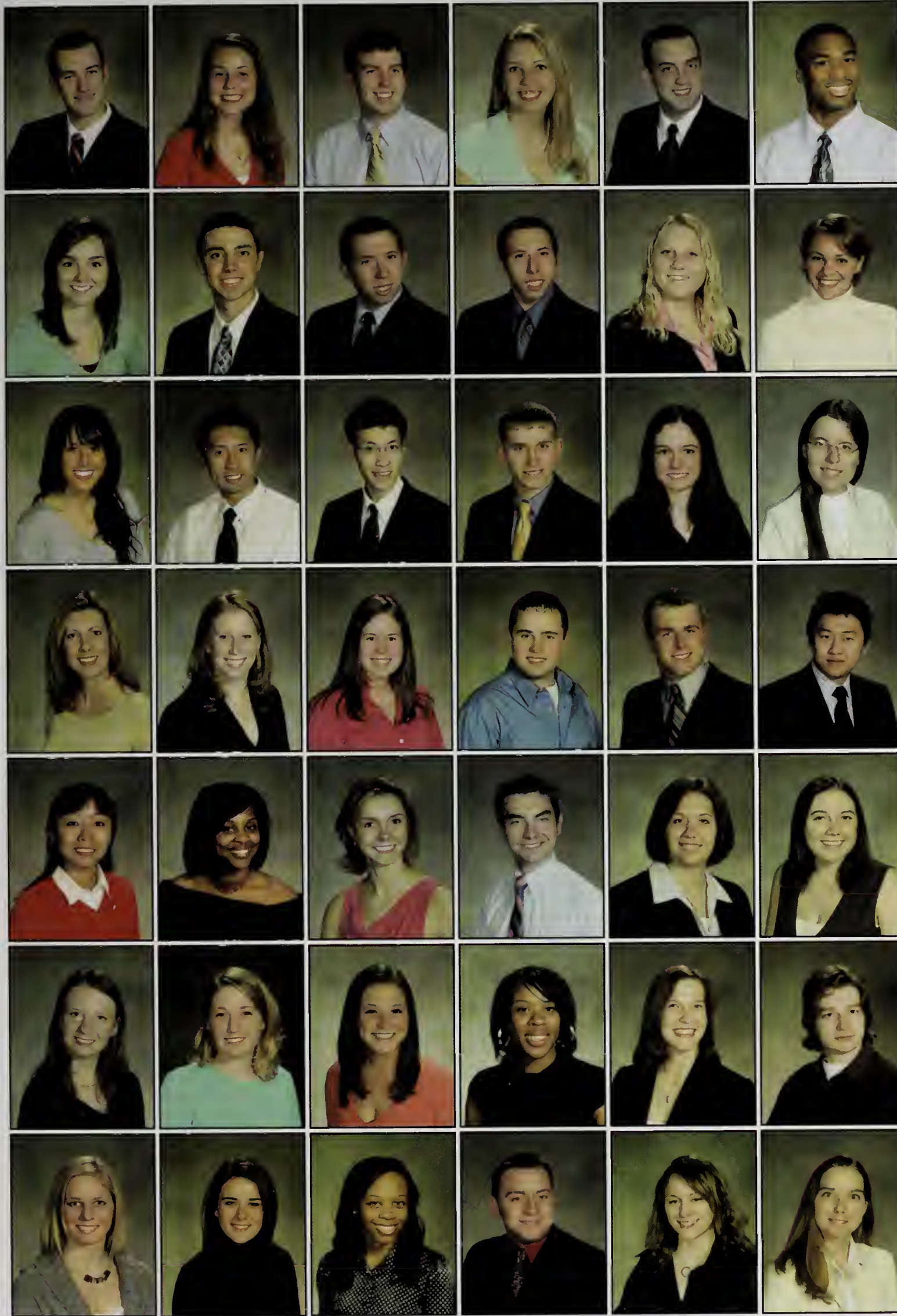
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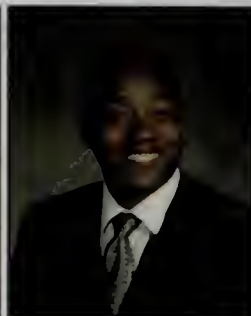
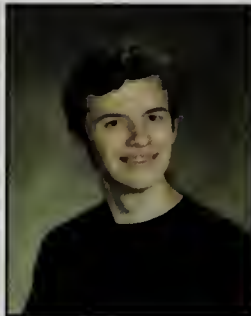
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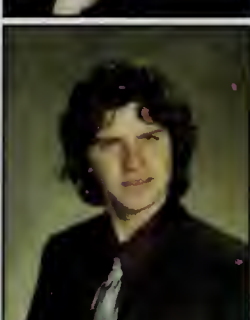
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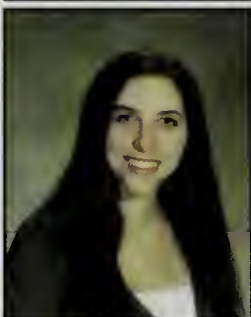
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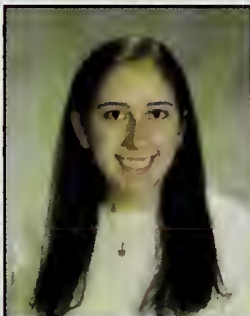
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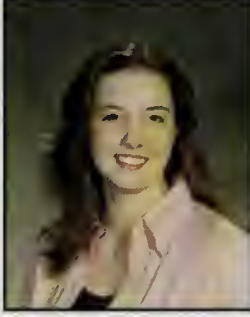
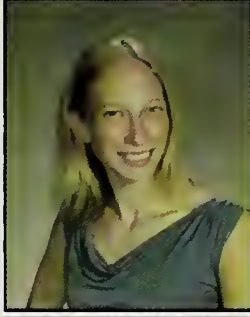
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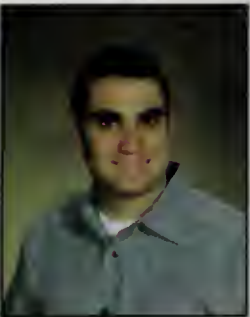
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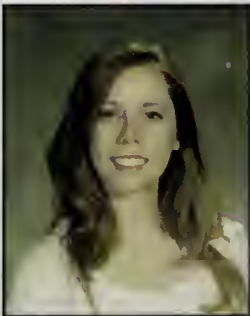
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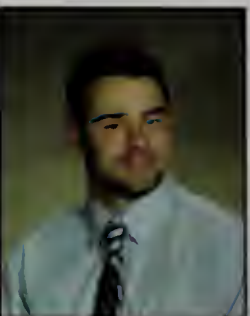
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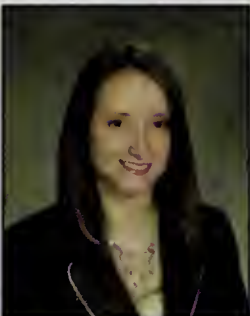
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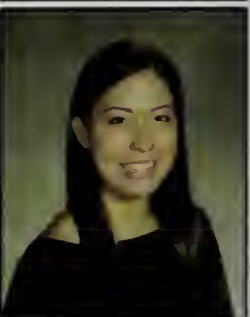
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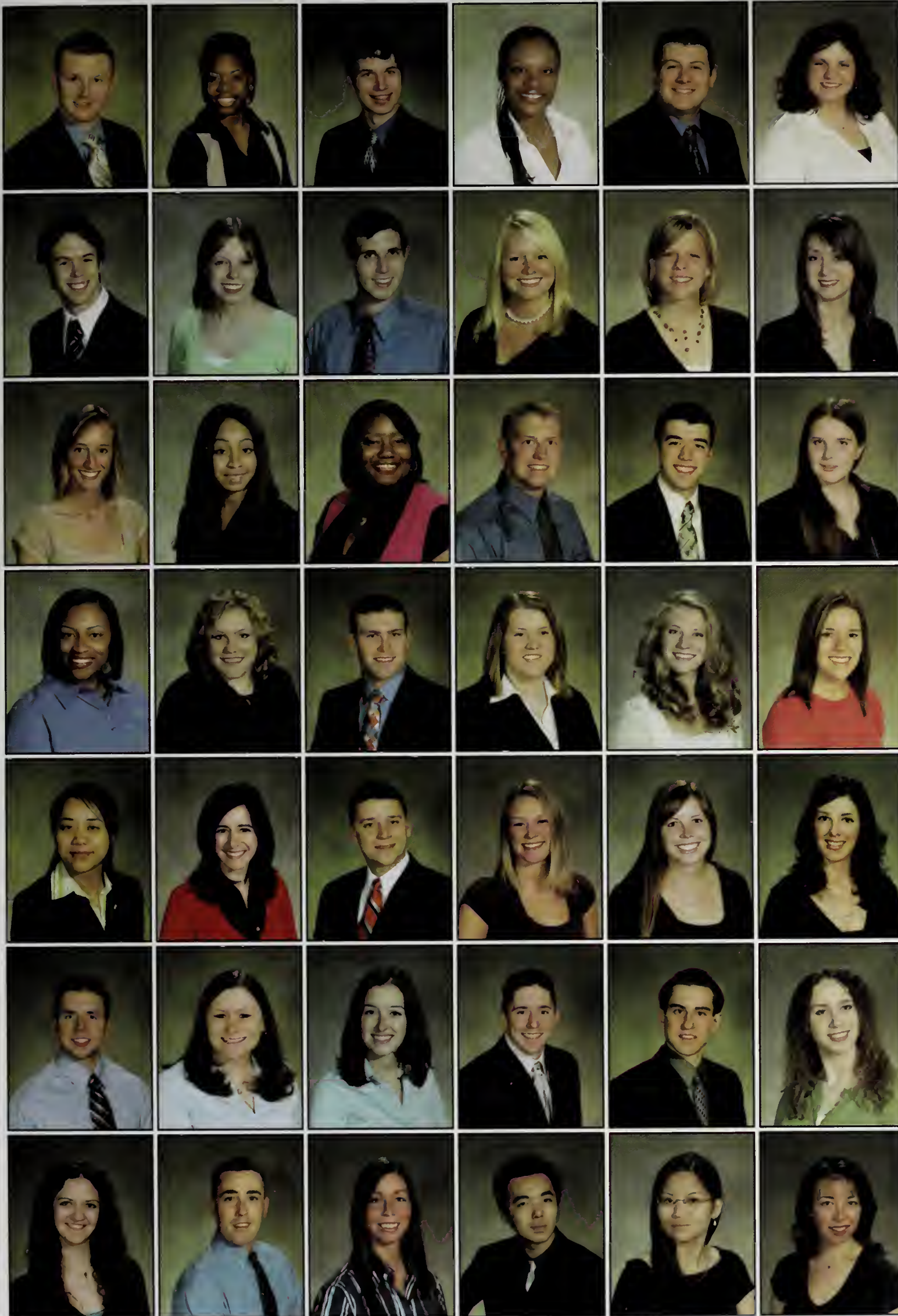
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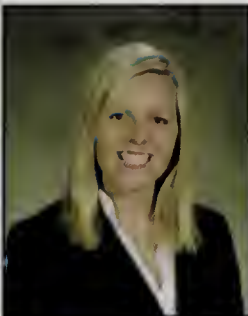
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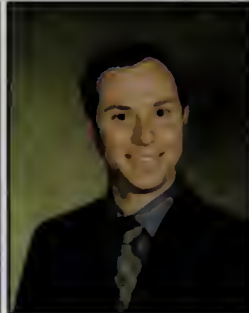
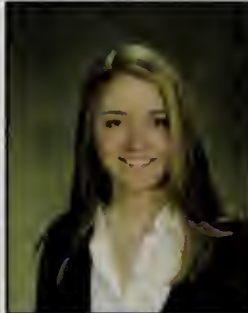
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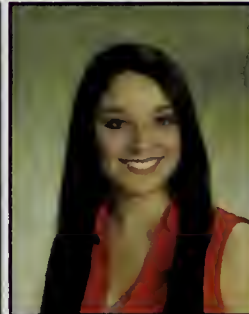
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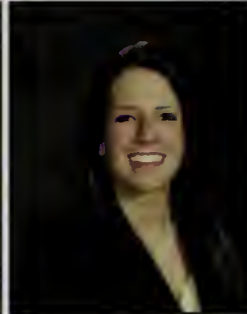
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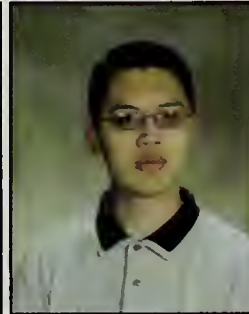
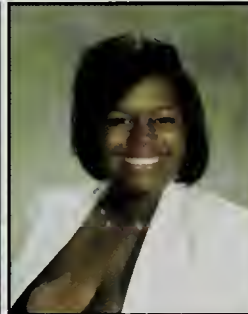
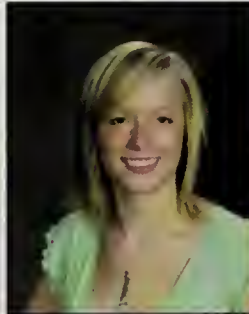
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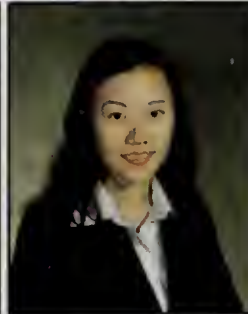
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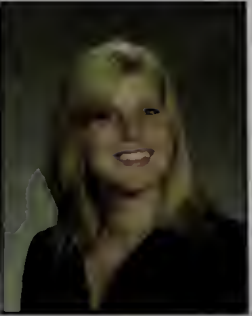
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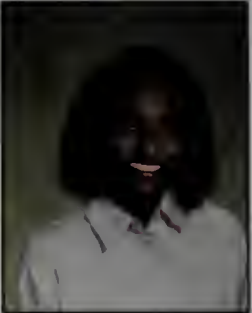
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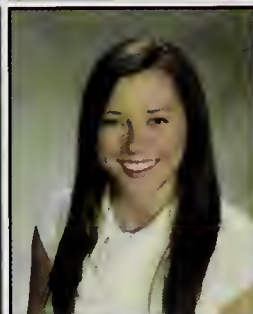
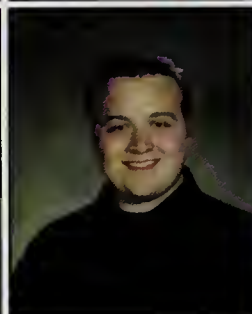
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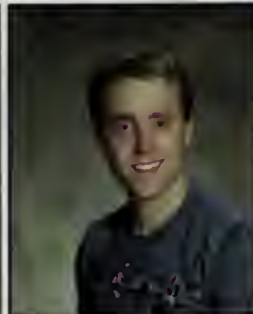
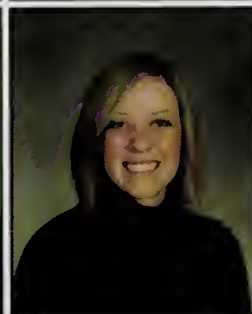
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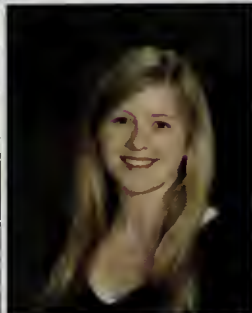
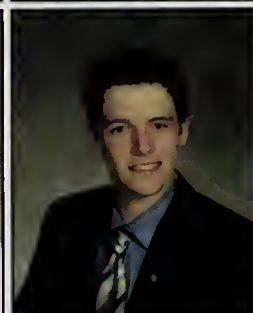
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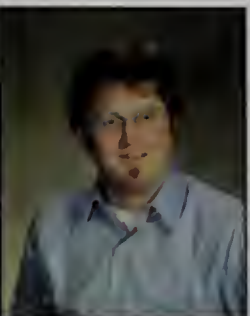
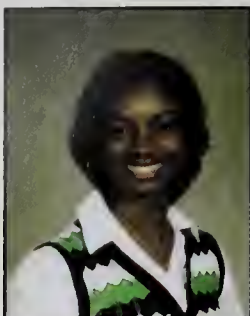
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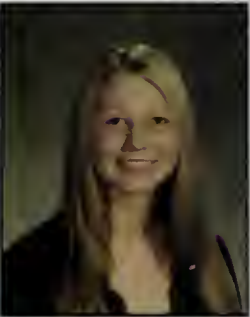
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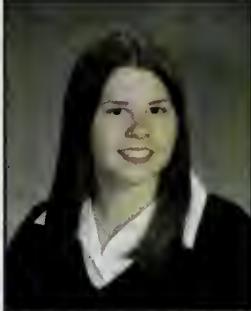
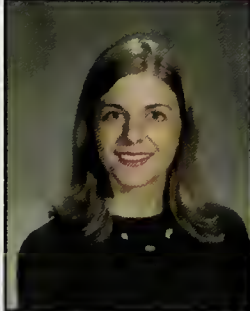
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# IN RETRO SPECT

Before starting this book, I used to look through old Illios in the office and envy the students on their pages. College would have been much cooler in the '60s and '70s, I thought, when you couldn't count your friends on a computer screen or carry a cell phone to class. I wanted to be at U of I during all the passion and protest and laid-back porch parties, not when C.O.'s and Starbucks and trendy snow boots crowded the campus. Convinced that I was born in the wrong decade, I reveled in the Illio archives and in my dad's U of I stories, catching reruns of *That 70's Show* and presetting 92.5 The Chief. It seemed to me then that my parents' college days had a lot more substance (pun intended?)—and a much better soundtrack.

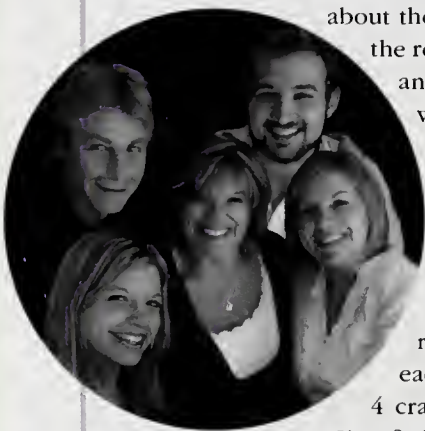
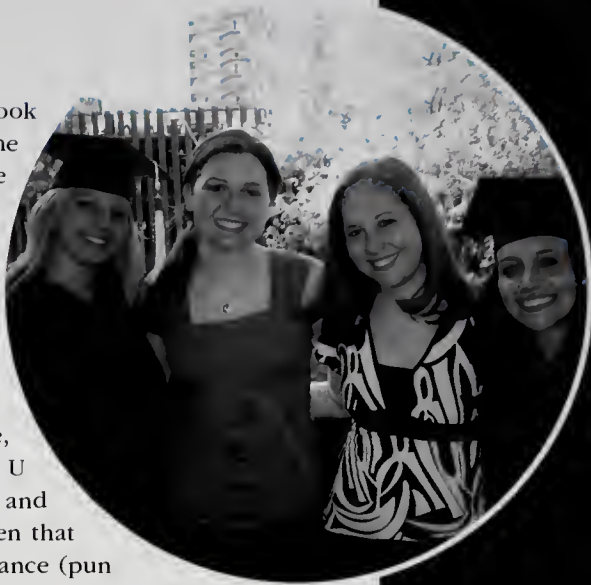
Yet making the 2007 Illio has awakened me to my case of fake nostalgia. Instead of glorifying a time I never lived through and a place I never knew, I had the chance to give my own college experience some credit. This yearbook pays respect to a rightfully deserving time at the University—a year that saw a resurgence in student media, increasing interest in global politics, and a heightened debate about racism on campus. These pages tell about the smoking ban in bars, the double snow days, and the retirement of the Chief. There was definitely passion and protest and history made this year, and not only was I here to witness it—I was here to record it.

These memorable events were the backdrop to the best two semesters I could have asked for. I met more people than in my first 3 years combined (in other words, my Facebook friend count skyrocketed). I spent Sunday nights with a talented and hilarious Illio staff who, for some reason, listened to what I said. I spent the rest of each week in apt. 202 with 3 amazing roommates and 4 crazy neighbors. I met Dave Eggers, saw New York City, finished my senior thesis, and finally karaoaked on a Wednesday night at White Horse. My sister got engaged in the fall, and my brother and I said goodbye to U of I when we both graduated in the spring.

I have finished the year and my college career, and I somehow managed to complete this massive project in the meantime. Sure, I still pour over those old Illios and wish I could have been there—but I can't wait to open this book years from now and know how cool it was to be here, at the University of Illinois, in 2006-2007.

**And now, in liner-notes fashion, I'd like to thank:** the Illio Marketing Staff for your selling strategies, Jayme Swift for the 3-season Illio show, Sarah Durham for your advising, Jane Cluver for your support, Mary Cory and the Illini Media Board for this opportunity, the writers and photographers for doing a job that ain't easy, each one of my dear editorial staff members for contributing to this beautiful book, Alex Robb for being more than qualified (cool, Pro Mode), Sarah Kowalis for the scary similarities between us, Deni Stritch for your dedication, Brother's Bar and Grill for the memories, NBC for *The Office*, John Mayer for *Continuum*, the BlackMac for its beauty, Professor Ramona Curry for your guidance, my English major friends for 'getting it' because no one else does, my Learning Community kids for being badasses, the boys of 201 for keeping it interesting, Eric Simmons for the text messages, Stacy Zettinger for sticking with me, Erin Foley for the last four years, Jennifer Stamm for the last 18, Anne Marcellus for the unbreakable bond between sisters of a made-up sorority, Cassidy for the unbreakable bond between actual sisters, Mark for joining the family, Adam for being the brother everyone wishes they had, Mom and Dad for everything I am and have yet to be, and God, of course, for all of the above.

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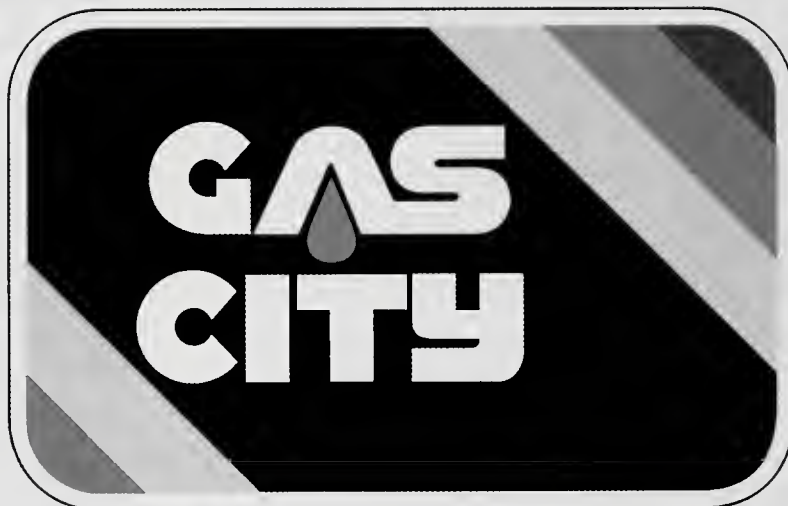
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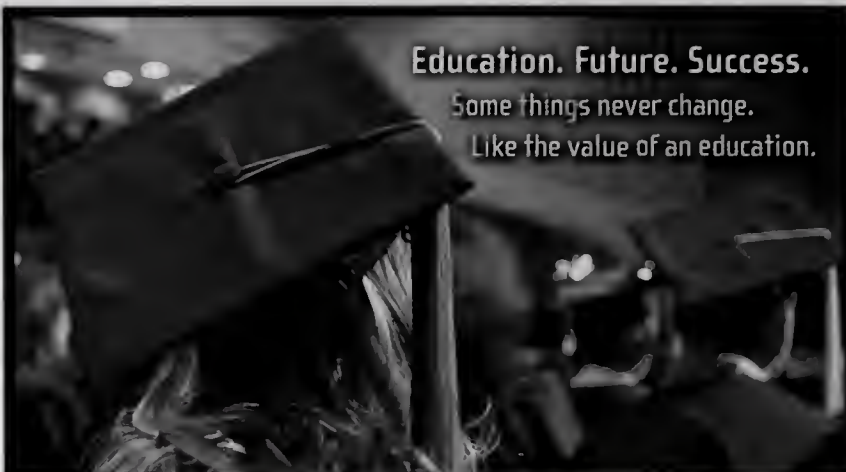


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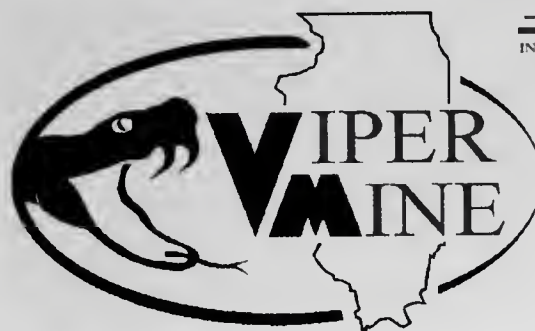
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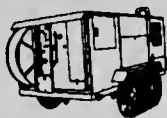
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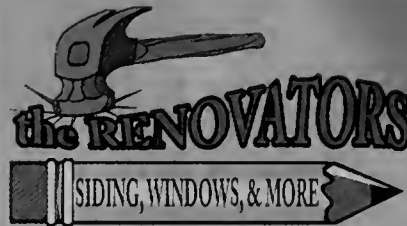
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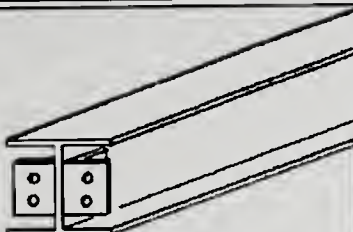
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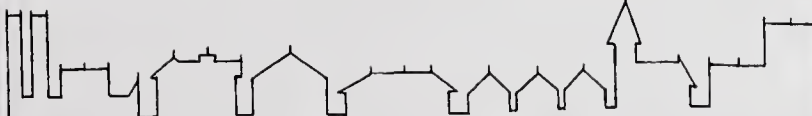
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The 2007 Illio Yearbook at the University of Illinois, Volume 114, was printed by Taylor Publishing Company in Dallas, Texas and produced with Adobe InDesign and Photoshop software. Jane Cluver was the Taylor Representative for the Illio and Pam Ringold was the Customer Service Advisor at Taylor.

The cover was designed by the art director and the editor-in-chief. The material is English Linen grained 4-color Lithocote with gloss finish and 150 pt. binder. All colors were created by the art director.

The endsheet material is 80 pound coated one side stock in mint #26. All 344 pages are printed 100 pound enamel.

Body copy for the book is 9 point Garamond with 12 point leading. Captions for the book are in 6 point Avant Garde Gothic Book with 8 point leading. Headline, subhead, and story/photo by fonts are as follows: Avant Garde Gothic Demi, Avant Garde Gothic Book, Avant Garde Gothic Book/Demi. Some headlines in the student life and academics sections are Avant Garde Gothic Book.

Each designer designed their pages under the supervision of the editor-in-chief. The opening, division, and closing pages were designed by the art director and the editor-in-chief. The design editor designed the sports section.

Photographers from both the Illio and Daily Illini staffs took the majority of the photos for the book. Some photos were courtesy of the University of Illinois Sports Information, the Associated Press, and others, as noted on the respective spread. The senior portraits were taken by Thorton Studios, New York, New York, and were submitted digitally.

All copy in the book was written and edited by Illini Media editorial staff members. The editor-in-chief wrote the opening body copy.

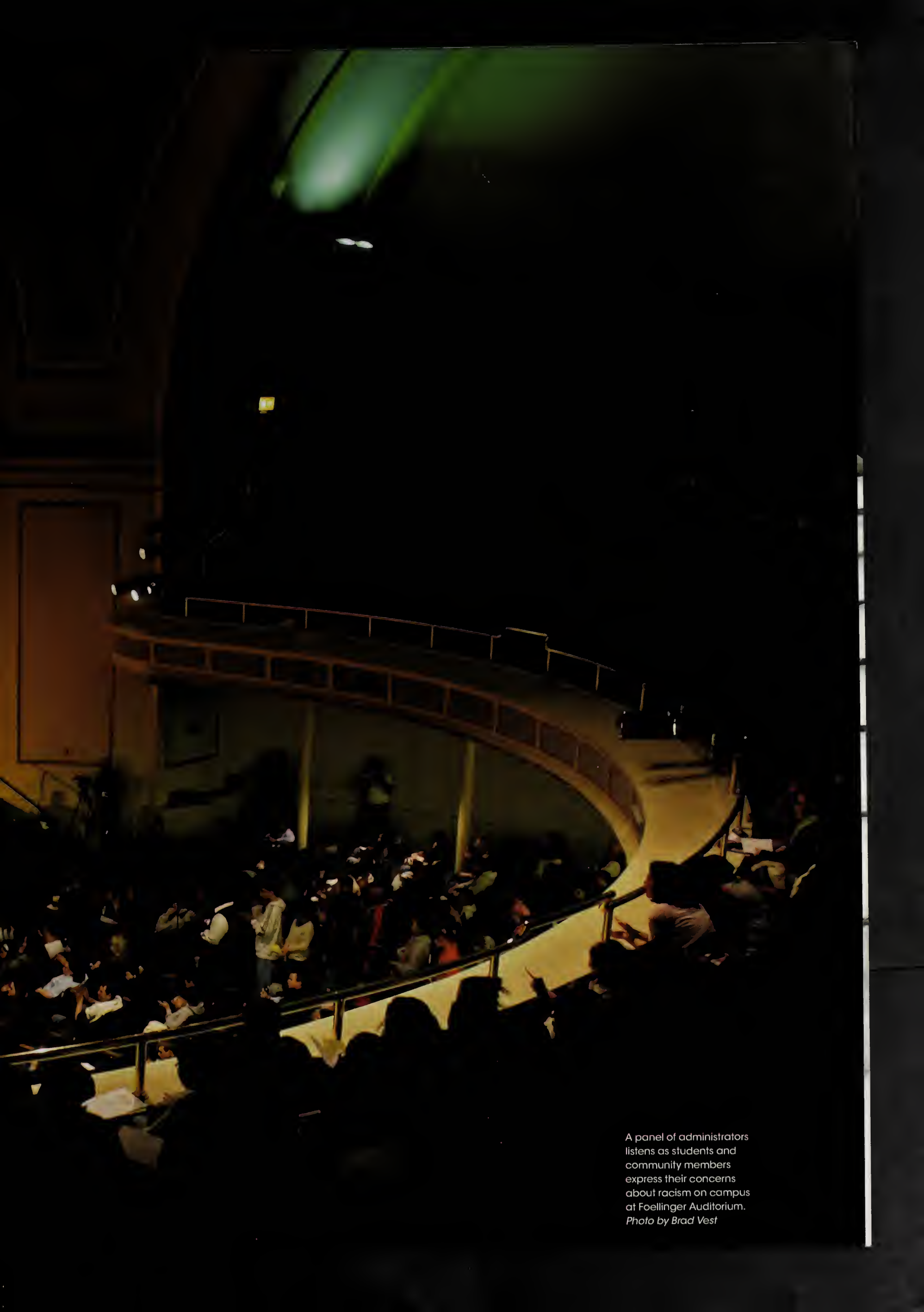
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A panel of administrators  
listens as students and  
community members  
express their concerns  
about racism on campus  
at Foellinger Auditorium.  
*Photo by Brad Vest*



Erin LeV, sophomore in Applied Health Sciences, slides down the steps in front of Foellinger Auditorium, as Jessie Block, sophomore in Education, far right, and Michelle Avila, sophomore in FAA, look on. Photo by Aaron Facemire















Illinois players wait for the rebound as Minnesota's Kevin Payton shoots a free throw.  
*Photo by Josh Birnbaum*









People walk along Green Street  
in front of Follett's Bookstore  
after a light rain.  
*Photo by Josh Birbaum*











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